

DAILY REPORT

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JAPAN

Ambassador Sumiya Meets With Habib in Manila	C 1
Nakasone Concerned Over SDI 'Nonnuclear' Nature	C 1
U.S. Aviation Agreement Reached; Talks End	C 2
U.S. Congressmen Urge Japan To Open Markets	C 2

NORTH KOREA

Kim Yong-chun on Mobilization Against 'Team Spirit-86'	D 1
Team Spirit Condemned as 'Military Provocation'	D 3
[NODONG SINMUN 15 Feb]	
Suppression of Signature Campaign in South Viewed	D 5
[NODONG SINMUN 14 Feb]	
17 Feb NODONG SINMUN Commentary	D 6
VNS Commentary	D 8
NKDP's Yi Min-u Arrested	D 9
North's Threat to Asian, Olympic Games 'Insanity'	D 10
[NODONG SINMUN 16 Feb]	
Leadership Traits of Kim Chong-il Depicted	D 11
Displays Compassion for People	D 12
Diplomatic Corps Sends Kim Chong-il Birthday Greetings	
Kim Hwan-Led Delegation Leaves for Thailand Visit	D 13
WPK Delegation Returns From Cuban CP Congress	D 13
Kim Il-song Receives Tanzanian Economic Group	D 13

SOUTH KOREA

Kim Yong-sam Again Placed Under House Arrest [AFP]	E 1
NKDP Criticizes Government's Ignoring Neutrality	E 1
[THE KOREA TIMES 19 Feb]	
NKDP Objects to Court Injunction on Chapter Heads	E 2
[THE KOREA TIMES 19 Feb]	
DJP Lawmakers Briefed on Signature Campaign	E 2
[THE KOREA TIMES 19 Feb]	
Chon Appoints New Presidential Spokesman	E 3
Industries Group Warns Against Political Unrest	E 3
[THE KOREA HERALD 19 Feb]	

CAMBODIA

SPK on Hun Sen Moscow TV Interview on Arms Race	H 1
Heng Samrin Receives Chu Huy Man Delegation [VNA]	H 1
Chan Ven Views Cambodia-Vietnam Alliance [HANOI]	H 2
Comparison of CGDK Statement on Indochina Summit [VONADK]	H 2

THAILAND

Appeals Court Allows Bail For 5 Coup Suspects [BANGKOK WORLD 18 Feb]	J 1
U.S. Congressional Group Visits Refugee Camps Delegation Returns From U.S., Views Talks [BANGKOK POST 17 Feb]	J 1
Deputy Defense Minister on Issue of U.S. Bases [MATICHON 15 Feb]	J 2
Sitthi Interviewed on Cambodia, Philippines [THE NATION 16 Feb]	J 2
Restrictions Lifted on Resettlement of Refugees [THE NATION 18 Feb]	J 5

VIETNAM

Radio Criticizes Reagan's State of Union Address	K 1
PRC Shelling 11 January-9 February Recounted	K 2
Radio Feature on Border Situation, PRC Actions	K 2
Party Journal Article on Border War With PRC [TAP CHI CHONG SAN]	K 4
NHAN DAN Calls PRC's UN Memorandum 'Slander' [14 Feb]	K 6
QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Comment	K 8
Solidarity Committee Condemns 'Team Spirit-86'	K 9
Radio Cites TASS on Marcos Election Victory	K 9
Trade Cooperation Agreement With CSSR Signed	K 9

AUSTRALASIA

NEW ZEALAND

McLay Reshuffles Party Responsibilities [THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD 11 Feb]	M 1
Official Criticizes Reshuffle [THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD 11 Feb]	M 2
Paper Views 'Crisis' in Defense Ministry [THE EVENING POST 4 Feb]	M 3

MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE

MALAYSIA

Bangkok's THE NATION: VOPM Seized in CPM Raid [19 Feb]	O 1
Mahathir Vows Malaysia Not To Be Military Power [AFP]	O 1

SINGAPORE

Lee Kuan Yew Names Son 'Acting' Trade Minister [AFP]	O 2
------------------------------------------------------	-----

PHILIPPINES

Ople Warns U.S. Against Support for Aquino	P 1
Radio Comment on Purpose of Habib's Visit	P 1
Marcos Threatens To Jail Opposition Leaders	P 1
Officials Warn of Prosecution for Tax Boycott [BULLETIN TODAY 18 Feb]	P 2

Marcos Plans Constitutional Amendment Commission	P 2
Text of Marcos Letter to Catholic Bishops	P 3
Cardinal Vidal Urges Non-violence in Opposition [PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS 17 Feb]	P 5
KBL Officials Criticize Bishops' Statement [PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS 15 Feb]	P 5
Editorial Criticizes Activities of Cardinal Sin [TIMES JOURNAL 14 Feb]	P 7
Marcos Reconciliation Statement to Opposition [PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS 14 Feb]	P 8
Marcos Orders Release of Samar CHDF Men	P 9
Radio Veritas Interviews Cory Aquino 17 Feb	P 9
Aquino Urges Marcos To Resign, No Coalition [AFP]	P 11
Journalists Group Leader on Aquino's Boycott Call	P 11
Students Picket U.S. Embassy in Manila [KYODO]	P 12
Protestors Dump Garbage in Front of U.S. Embassy [AFP]	P 12
Public, Private College Classes Reopen	P 13
CPP Leader on Reports of U.S. Military Advisers	P 13
Columnist Suggests U.S. Uphold Filipino Rights [BUSINESS DAY 17 Feb]	P 14
Columnist on U.S. Position, Options After Vote [BUSINESS DAY 14 Feb]	P 15
BUSINESS DAY Column Calls for Civil Disobedience [17 Feb]	P 17
TIMES JOURNAL: Reconciliation First Priority [17 Feb]	P 18
U.S. 'About Face' On Poll Fraud Criticized [BULLETIN TODAY 18 Feb]	P 19
Marcos Campaign Chief Charged With Murder	P 20

AMBASSADOR SUNIYA MEETS WITH HABIB IN MANILA

OW190543 Tokyo KYODO in English 0537 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 19 KYODO -- U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib and Japanese Ambassador Kiyoshi Sumiya met here Wednesday to assess the deepening Philippine crisis. Details of the 30-minute discussion are not known. Habib and Sumiya met at the residence of the U.S. ambassador to Manila.

Habib told Sumiya that his mission is designed not to reconcile President Ferdinand Marcos and opposition leader Corazon Aquino but to assess the Philippine situation, according to Japanese Embassy sources.

Habib and Sumiya had a lively exchange of personal views on Marcos' reform plans, Roman Catholic Church moves and military affairs, the sources said.

The American envoy told Sumiya that he has advised Aquino to stick to nonviolent methods in her anti-Marcos campaign, the sources said.

The veteran diplomatic troubleshooter was quoted as saying that he will remain in the Philippines until he can be confident of grasping the situation. Habib, here since Sunday, will also meet ambassadors to Manila from the Philippines' Southeast Asian neighbors, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Brunei, the sources said.

NAKASONE CONCERNED OVER SDI 'NONNUCLEAR' NATURE

OW181219 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Tuesday Japan's major concern in deciding its position on the United States star wars program is whether the defense system is of a nonnuclear nature. But Nakasone did not dismiss the possibility of Japan taking part in the U.S. program, officially called the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), even if nuclear weapons are to be included in the system. Japan has not announced whether it will participate in the research stage of SDI, although Washington has invited Tokyo to do so.

Political sources believe the Nakasone administration wants to make a decision on the matter before the Tokyo summit of seven industrial democracies to be held in early May. "The most important point in considering Japan's participation (in star wars) is whether or not it is a nonnuclear system for defense purposes," Nakasone said at a session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee.

The premier said Japan will make a decision after studying whether the system is nuclear in nature.

The Foreign Ministry has said that SDI would not be regarded as a nuclear weapon even if nuclear energy is used, and that Japan's technical cooperation could be offered in areas not associated with nuclear weapons.

Michio Watanabe, minister of international trade and industry, was asked by an opposition Diet member if Japan will agree to supply its military technology to non-American SDI participants -- including Britain and West Germany. Watanabe replied that the matter would be dealt with on a "case-by-case" basis in accordance with Japan's ban on arms exports.

Japan has an agreement with the U.S. on the supply of military technology, but not with any other country. Some industrial sectors are reportedly concerned about a possible unchecked outflow of Japanese advanced technology to third nations through the joint scheme.

U.S. AVIATION AGREEMENT REACHED; TALKS END

OW141228 Tokyo KYODO in English 1216 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 14 KYODO -- Japan and the United States Friday ended working-level talks here on civil aviation with an agreement to strive to eliminate obstacles to smooth flights of their airliners into each other's territory. They agreed to study possible relaxation of restrictions on day-to-day business of airlines, including simplification of customs clearance procedures for air cargos, Foreign Ministry sources said.

But no agreement was reached on any of a wide range of specific matters taken up at the five-day talks. Among them were simplification of customs and quarantine procedures, expansion of plane departure and landing frameworks at new Tokyo International Airport and Osaka International Airport, and tax exemption for cargo-handling machines. The U.S. asked for extension of time for quarantine procedures. Japan replied it will study the idea of introducing weekend quarantine checks, the sources said.

U.S. CONGRESSMEN URGE JAPAN TO OPEN MARKETS

OW180823 Tokyo KYODO in English 0955 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO -- Members of a U.S. House Republican task force on international trade Tuesday urged Japan to open its market wider to U.S. products as protectionist pressure in the U.S. Congress threatens to gather momentum toward a U.S. election in November.

Republican Don Sundquist from Tennessee, chairman of the group, told a press conference that his delegation is on a tour of Pacific rim countries "not to threaten but to communicate." The mission has already visited Taiwan and South Korea. "Those countries must bring down barriers to allow us to compete," Sundquist said.

The members warned that protectionist legislation, if enacted, will be destructive to the economic relations between Japan and the United States, which had a trade imbalance of about 50 billion dollars in favor of Japan in 1985.

More than 300 trade bills have been presented to the U.S. Congress, aimed at restricting U.S. imports from its major trading partners such as Japan and South Korea.

John Miller, a lawmaker from Washington, said trade legislation will raise barriers against foreign products and it would be difficult and would take a long time to change the situation. "It would be a mistake (for Japan) to wait," Miller said.

The protectionist mood in the Congress has changed dramatically in the last six months, Harold Rogers from Kentucky said, adding that the 50 billion dollar deficit with Japan is "intolerable."

Webb Franklin from Mississippi and others called for "reciprocity" in bilateral trade. "We would like a complete openness of the Japanese market for agricultural and other products," Franklin said.

"If that situation (50 billion dollar trade imbalance) continues, it'll not be good for either your nation or our nation," Sundquist added.

KIM YONG-CHUN ON MOBILIZATION AGAINST 'TEAM SPIRIT-86'

SK140659 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Kim Yong-chun, vice chairman of the Korean Social Democratic Party [KSDP] Central Committee, issued a press statement on 13 February supporting the KPA supreme commander's order and the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement which were issued to cope with the grave situation created in our country.

Press statement by Kim Yong-chun, vice chairman of the KSDP Central Committee:

In connection with the KPA supreme commander's order and the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement which were issued to cope with the grave situation created in our country, opinions at home and abroad are showing great repercussions and expressing full support for them.

The KPA supreme commander's order points out that the combat mobilization readiness to be taken by all the units of the KPA, the Korean People's Security Forces, the Worker-Peasant Red Guards, and the Red Young Guards is in connection with the situation in which the danger of a new war is approaching our country due to the reckless military provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean persons in authority.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement, clarifying the fundamental position of the government of the republic in connection with the situation created, denounced the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise by the United States and the South Korean persons in authority, and claimed that they should be held totally responsible for causing the North-South dialogue in Korea to be suspended and for causing tension to become extremely acute again.

I, together with all KSD members, fully support the KPA supreme commander's order and the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement, as I acknowledge them to be appropriate self-defensive steps to cope with the urgent situation created in the country and an expression of the just position to prevent the danger of war and to maintain peace.

As everyone knows, from the noble desire to ease tension in the country and to create a good atmosphere for progressing the hard-won North-South dialogue, the government of our republic decided not to conduct large-scale military exercises in the entire area of the northern half of the republic from 1 February and to call off all military exercises during the North-South dialogue, and proposed that the United States and the South Korean authorities actively respond to this peace initiative of ours. This is a clear expression of the consistent position and serious effort of the government of the republic to maintain peace in Korea, to build a basis for peaceful reunification, and, further, to defend world peace and security. It is being welcomed and receiving active support from the governments and broad social circles of many peace-loving countries of the world.

Nevertheless, the United States and the South Korean puppets ignored the just proposal of the government of the republic and the consistent aspirations of the world's peace-loving people and are staging a large-scale nuclear war exercise, clearly exposing once again to the world's people their true color as bellicose elements.

In the name of all KSDP members, I sternly denounce the reckless war exercise racket of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets as a heinous crime aimed at again bringing a calamity of war to our loving fatherland and as a vicious challenge to the conscience of mankind who loves and yearns for peace.

The war exercise racket which the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean bellicose elements are frenziedly staging in our country today is far from fortuitous. The U.S. imperialists, persistently pursuing the heinous ambition to dominate the world, are attempting to use South Korea as a foothold for a power confrontation in the Far East and as a forward base for this purpose.

To realize this criminal objective, they have intensively brought neutron weapons and various nuclear weapons and nuclear carrying means into South Korea, turning the entire land of the South into a nuclear war powder magazine, and have escalated the war exercises.

They are staging the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise this year, hurling into it nuclear offensive armed forces which are several times larger than those in the NATO military exercises, to make South Korea an offensive nuclear base and to attack our republic and the other socialist countries.

This stern reality clearly shows that although the U.S. imperialist leaders are raving that they do not want a nuclear war but seek peace, they are in fact frenziedly seeking a nuclear war, not peace. Moreover, the fact that, under the circumstances in which the United Nations designated this year the year of international peace in which the peace-loving peoples of the world consistently and ardently desire for the maintenance of peace this year, the U.S. imperialists are staging a large-scale war game, leading the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war, clearly and realistically proves how adventurously they are engaging in war moves.

The South Korean puppets, colluding with the U.S. imperialist masters, are inspiring war frenzy, scheming for confrontation and war rather than peace and alleviation of tension in our country, and are attempting to threaten and suppress by force the patriotic youths, students, and people of South Korea calling for independence and democracy.

It is preposterous that the South Korean ruling ring -- which is causing extreme tension in the situation of the country as a war proxy for foreign forces, bringing the dark clouds of war to the fatherland -- should babble about peace and rave about the alleviation of tension and dialogue. No one will believe this.

It should also be the object of the world people's criticism and rejection for leading the situation in the country to a state of war and for saying that they intend to host the Asian Games and the Olympic Games in Seoul. It is apparent to everyone that the place where a tense situation in which a war could break out at any moment is created and where it could be engulfed in the flames of war at any time is not suitable for holding international or Olympic games.

The reckless war racket which the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are staging today will result in their own grave after all. Those who like to play with fire will die from fire. I think the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling ring should clearly know this truth tested by history and should not act recklessly.

I strongly urge the United States to listen to the just demands of the Korean people and all the world's people aspiring for peace, immediately call off the reckless "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise, and withdraw from South Korea without delay, taking along all the armed forces, including their aggressive army and nuclear weapons.

The South Korean persons in authority should give up the futile idea of saving their doomed fate by staging a war exercise racket and stop such a shameful act as playing the role of a proxy war for someone else.

If the United States and the South Korean persons in authority continue to engage in war games despite our repeated warnings, they will not escape the stronger denunciation of all the world's peace-loving people and the resolute punishment of the Korean people.

[Dated] 13 February 1986, Pyongyang

TEAM SPIRIT CONDEMNED AS 'MILITARY PROVOCATION'

SK150521 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2152 GMT 14 Feb 86

[NODONG SINMUN 15 February commentary: "Blazing Clouds of Nuclear War Are Befalling"]

[Text] The "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets is taking on dangerous features right from its initial stage. While the U.S. forces in South Korea and the puppet army are ready to move, the massive armed forces of the aggressive army, having left the U.S. bases on the U.S. mainland and in the Pacific region including Hawaii and Okinawa, are now surging into South Korea.

A large U.S. naval transport ship, leading a military port in Washington State in the United States, entered Pusan Port on 13 February, carrying a large amount of military equipment, including 14 helicopters, 1,200 military vehicles of various kinds, and supply equipment.

According to foreign press reports, the advanced contingents of the U.S. imperialists' aggressive troops have already left the U.S. mainland, and the transport ships of the U.S. Marine Corps, leaving a base in Okinawa, will enter South Korea by the end of this week, carrying a large amount of military equipment and supplies.

A South Korean broadcast said that the "Team Spirit" exercise entered a full-fledged operation on 10 February and that the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines under the command of the U.S. Pacific Command and the aircraft carrier battle group have begun to move toward South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, holding a malicious intent against our republic, loading their guns, are concentrating the massive aggressive armed forces again under the pretext of a military exercise. This constitutes extraordinary military provocation maneuvers that can be compared to the eve of war.

The treacherous and adventurous military provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges are causing dark clouds of a new war to hang densely over our country again, creating a tense situation in which a war could break out at any time.

South Korea is a nuclear war powder magazine where some 1,000 nuclear weapons of various kinds are densely deployed. The flying columns of the U.S. overseas aggression and numerous nuclear attack means and equipment are surging into South Korea where danger is already great without them. This, therefore, doubles the danger.

In fact, there is no guarantee that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets will not extend the military exercise into an invasion of an area of the northern half of our republic.

Maintaining and solidifying peace in Korea is the consistent aspiration and demand of the entire Korean people and the world's people. We have made every effort we could for this. For the solid peace on the Korean peninsula, we have proposed tripartite talks and the North-South parliamentary talks, and have taken a series of peace initiatives for limiting and halting military exercises.

When the South Korean puppet clique announced the plan to stage a provocative military exercise together with the U.S. imperialists, disrupting the atmosphere for North-South dialogue, we urged them to give up the negative attitude toward the dialogue and to adopt a correct one. The world welcomed our sincere steps.

Despite this, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique started the "Team Spirit" war exercise and re-entered a full-fledged stage of military action. This is a vicious challenge to the yearning and aspirations of our people and the world's people desiring peace and the peaceful reunification of Korea and a criminal act gravely threatening peace in Korea and Asia.

They are raving that the "Team Spirit" exercise has nothing to do with dialogue and that it does not threaten peace, babbling about defense and its being an annual event, but this is nonsense. Some time ago, traitor Chon Tu-hwan said that the "Team Spirit" war exercise has been turned into an offensive exercise. Wickham, U.S. Army chief of staff, confessed that the "Team Spirit" exercise has proven that they can wage a war without warning in Korea. The criminal nature of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique as the disturber of peace and destroyer of dialogue has been revealed clearly.

The U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring announced that the war exercise would begin on 10 February, 10 days later than usual, pretending that this is a step for reducing the duration of the exercise. This, however, is a tricky tactic. According to reports, as soon as February came, Naha, a military port in Okinawa bustled with the assembling of U.S. Army transport ships. The equipment that reached South Korea on 13 February left the U.S. mainland on 5 February. The South Korean puppet Army staged various demonstration drills, beginning on the first day of February, for this war exercise, and it began the command teams' maneuver on 6 February. This means that the "Team Spirit-86" military exercise began early in February and that there is nothing different from the past. The fact only reveals the cunningness and shamelessness of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique.

The criminal maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges intentionally causing tension on the Korean peninsula and leading the situation to the brink of war will not escape the greater condemnation and rejection of the people at home and abroad.

Our people and the People's Army are keenly watching every move of theirs with high revolutionary alertness. The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique should not run wild recklessly.

SUPPRESSION OF SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN IN SOUTH VIEWED

SK150222 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2151 GMT 13 Feb 86

[NODONG SINMUN 14 February commentary: "A Whirlwind of Suppression Being Kicked Up Out of Fear of Popular Sentiment"]

[Text] The Chon Tu-hwan fascist clique, which was startled by the people's ever-growing aspirations against dictatorship and for democracy, are committing the fascist, violent act of randomly arresting and imprisoning opposition figures, youths, and students who are conducting the campaign to collect 10 million signatures for the revision of the Constitution, thus turning South Korea into a whirlpool of horror, where the whirlwind of arrests is blowing hard. The fascist clique has already suppressed, with guns and bayonets, the advance by the university students in Seoul to conduct the campaign to collect signatures for the revision of the Constitution, arresting some 250 students. While saying that it will thoroughly root out riots in campuses, it is kicking up a whirlwind of suppression in order to arrest 75 wanted students, and inhumanly persecuting and brutally torturing students who were arrested or detained under the excuse of finding out the details of their conspiracy and hidden circumstances.

Feeling uneasy over the fact that the movement to revise the Constitution is spreading into a popular movement, the military fascist clique even had the puppet Supreme Prosecutor's Office and the puppet Seoul Police Headquarters issue what is called guidelines for blocking this movement. In what is called a guideline, the puppet Supreme Prosecutor's Office indicated that it has decided to harshly punish those who solicit signatures in the streets on charges of obstructing traffic and occupying [chomnyong] streets without permission; those who enter residences and disobeying the demand for withdrawal; and those who solicit signatures en masse after holding assemblies and staging demonstrations on charges of violating the Law on Assemblies and Demonstrations and of the Minor Offense Law. The puppets are also threatening to keep under control the act of distributing propaganda leaflets or posting them on charges of instigating assemblies and demonstrations, blocking traffic, spreading groundless rumors, and violating the Law on Propaganda Material. In connection with all assemblies, demonstrations, and sit-ins that violate the constitutional order, they are also threatening to arrest, investigate, and harshly punish those who masterminded and eagerly participated in these events.

In its guidelines, the puppet Seoul Police Headquarters threatened to arrest and imprison all participants in all sorts of demonstrations and on-street signatories -- students, politicians, religionists, workers, or whoever they are. Branding the students' campaign to collect signatures as clear political activities, the puppet minister of education said that he would thoroughly eliminate these acts. As a counter-measure against the campaign to collect signatures for the revision of the Constitution, the order of duty service in an emergency has been established in all universities; campuses have been completely blocked; and an order to harshly ban all sorts of assemblies, demonstrations, and collective action has been in force, practically placing South Korea under martial law.

Such a reactionary suppression offensive by the Chon Tu-hwan ring is an unforgivable criminal act designed to block the people's aspirations against dictatorship and for democracy with guns and bayonets. Abolishing the fascist Constitution, which was fabricated with guns and bayonets; enacting a democratic constitution; and making a reform in the current fascist system are the South Korean people's unanimous aspirations and demand for survival.

The South Korean people know very well that under the current Constitution and the fascist system, which exist in order to systematically guarantee the Chon Tu-hwan ring's reign in office for an extended period of time, they cannot think of expressing their opinions in a democratic manner or the peaceful transfer of power through fair elections, and that their simple demand for survival cannot be realized. The people unanimously hate and denounce the brutal rule of the fascist clique, which is covering South Korea with a suppression network of military and police and which makes it a business to engage in fascist tyranny, and demand that the Chon Tu-hwan ring resign from power.

The campaign to collect 10 million signatures for the revision of the Constitution, which reflects this urgent demand, is winning great support and sympathy among the South Korean people of all walks of life. On 4 February, in Seoul National University, students of 15 universities in Seoul organized a united body to conduct the campaign to revise the Constitution and announced the beginning of the campaign to collect signatures, establishing a democratic constitutional order in South Korea. The trend of popular sentiment, and the campaign to collect 10 million signatures for the revision of the Constitution is a great advance for democracy where the broad strata of the masses are represented and reveals the tendency for it to spread across the country.

It is very clear that conducting the campaign to collect signatures, which reflects the aspirations of the popular masses, cannot constitute a crime. However, the Chon Tu-hwan ring is frantically attempting to arrest, detain, and punish those who initiate or support the campaign to collect signatures for the revision of the Constitution. This will only further expose to the world their fascist nature, as traitors who turn against the people and who are afraid of popular sentiment and as hangmen of freedom and democracy.

The fascist clique is attempting to maintain its fascist, dictatorial system and realize its ambition to stay in power for an extended period of time by suppressing the people's will and aspirations with guns and bayonets. However, this is nothing but a silly dream. There is a saying that popular sentiment is absolute. History shows that those who wield guns and bayonets in order to suppress the people's will and public sentiment perished, without exception, by the flames of the people's violent protest. The Chon Tu-hwan ring must stop instigating maneuvers to suppress the campaign to collect signatures for the revision of the Constitution and unconditionally and immediately release the youths, students, and figures of all walks of life whom they have arrested and detained in an unreasonable manner.

17 Feb NODONG SINMUN Commentary

SK171223 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2150 GMT 16 Feb 86

[NODONG SINMUN 17 February commentary: "Gangster-Style Fetters"]

[Text] [Passage indistinct] His house is literally surrounded by a fence of gun barrels because it has been surrounded by some 1,000 puppet policemen. A barricade has been built in front of the gate and all connections with the outside world have been cut off including telephone lines.

When some 150 figures of all walks of life, including a younger brother of Kim Tae-chung, rose up in protest against the puppet clique's measure of house arrest, the fascist clique committed an act of brutal suppression by mobilizing some 1,000 policemen, and also committed the brutality of arresting a brother of Kim Tae-chung and 15 other figures.

If a politician cannot engage in political activities, go outside his door, or meet with visitors, this is tantamount to his being a prisoner. Out of fear of being denounced by public opinion, the Chon Tu-hwan ring could not put him in fetters. Instead, it turned his house into a prison cell. In this manner the military fascist clique is persecuting Kim Tae-chung.

In addition to this, having issued instructions to the entire police force to take a special and emergency alert posture, it is running amok in conductive surprise attacks on and searches of the New Korea Democratic Party Headquarters office as well as the office of the Committee for the Promotion of Democracy. South Korea has arrested figures of all walks of life; surrounding universities and controlling the entrance by students; and swooping down sites of assemblies and demonstrations by the youths, students, and opposition figures and creating scenes of bloodshed there. South Korea is practically under martial law, in a state of emergency.

The brutal suppression being committed in South Korea is a revival by the Yusin remnants of the notorious Yusin fascist rule, and an open, reactionary offensive by the fascist elements against the democratic forces.

Making an issue out of the campaign by the opposition figures, youths, and students to realize the abolition of the fascist Constitution and the revision of the Constitution for direct presidential elections, and Chon Tu-hwan ring has threatened to inflict stern punishment upon or take a firm stand against this campaign. When this campaign began, the Chon Tu-hwan ring went at it with bayonets. On the day he signed for the revision of the Constitution for direct presidential elections, Kim Tae-chung was placed under harsher house arrest.

The campaign to collect signatures for the revision of the Constitution, which has begun in South Korea, is a just struggle to abolish fascism, to achieve democracy, and to regain the basic rights of mankind, including the right to vote. The puppets are attempting to legalize their military, fascist rule through the so-called Constitution and to guarantee the reign in power by traitor Chon Tu-hwan and his DJP for an extended period of time by using the indirect presidential election system, stipulated in the Constitution, as a legal means. The people, who are suffering from this, have risen up against it. This is a very logical result. However, the Chon Tu-hwan ring is making it a business to wield swords against Kim Tae-chung and other democratic forces by mobilizing all forces of suppression. This is an act of violence being committed under the mask of authority and an agonized struggle by those who are isolated from the people. This is also a maneuver by the Chon Tu-hwan ring to reign in power for an extended period of time, and a criminal maneuver to maintain its tyrannical and ganster-like politics.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring is babbling about a constitutional order and democracy. However, there is neither an order nor democracy in South Korea. What exists in South Korea are only illegal, violent remarks by those who are wearing swords to threaten the people who demand democracy, and the rackets of arrests, tortures, and trials, which are being carried out almost every day. It is South Korea, a colony of the U.S. imperialists, that is a wasteland of human rights and the tundra of democracy. Brutal massacres, which we can only see in such a country as Nazi Germany 40 years, are being openly committed in South Korea. It is the shame of the times that such a society as South Korea, which boasts of independence and civilization, exists at the present time.

Fainting from fright at the beginning of the campaign to collect 10 million signatures for the revision of the Constitution, traitor Chon Tu-hwan is running amok in suppression. This is evidence that they are being isolated from and rejected by the people. If they are supported by the people as they say they are, they would not have felt it necessary to suppress this campaign. Guns and bayonets are not absolute and are not means for survival. The end of the suppressive rule by traitor Syngman Rhee or traitor Pak Chong-hui shows this.

It has become very clear that despite the fact that the Chon Tu-hwan ring is making it a business to unleash threats and wield swords, the campaign to collect signatures will be expanded and that, synchronized with the return to school by university students, popular struggles will be waged throughout South Korea in an explosive manner. If the Chon Tu-hwan ring continues its suppression, it will suffer nothing but destruction. The Chon Tu-hwan ring must act with discretion after squarely seeing the trend of the times, and must release all of those whom it has detained, arrested, or imprisoned, including Kim Tae-chung.

In view of the current rackets of suppression, there is no guarantee that the puppets will not again provoke such a bloody incident as the Kwangju incident. The situation in South Korea demands that the world's people and the social and press circles in the world raise their just voices for stopping the South Korean puppet clique's brutal suppression and for rescuing Kim Tae-chung and other democratic forces.

VNS Commentary

SK171235 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT
15 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] In this hour, we will discuss the Chon Tu-hwan ring's frantic creation of the whirlwind of fascist tyranny. Frightened by the daily increasing antifascist struggle of the people from all walks of life to achieve democracy, the Chon Tu-hwan group has increased the fascist and frantic suppression of the people more than ever before.

As has already been reported, Kim Tae-chung, cochairman of the Council for Promotion of Democracy [CPD], was placed under house arrest on the night of 15 February on charges of signing a document demanding constitutional revision. While staging an antigovernment demonstration, protesting this, Kim Yong-sam, a permanent adviser to the New Korea Democratic Party [NKDP], was taken to his home. The police authorities have committed the act of breaking into the NKDP building and of confiscating documents concerning the signature collection campaign.

On 12 February, the Seoul Metropolitan Police Bureau said threateningly that it will arrest and send to summary courts those who intend to participate in various meetings as well as those who have participated in these meetings. On 13 February, it established an investigation headquarters at each police station as part of the measures for arresting wanted criminals and deployed four to six investigation personnel for each wanted criminal, thus creating the whirlwind of arrest.

Such a tyrannical offensive launched by the Chon Tu-hwan group constitutes the unpardonable criminal act of thwarting, with bayonets, our people's antifascist aspiration for democracy and of fulfilling a wild desire for long-term power.

Voices strongly calling for revising the fascist constitution designed to help Chon Tu-hwan remain in power forever and for formulating a democratic constitution have been raised throughout the country among the people from all walks of life, including students, opposition party and off-stage figures, and religious figures. At the same time, various types of struggles have been fiercely waged.

On 12 February, some 300 people, including NKDP President Yi Min-u, NKDP members, national assemblymen, and CPD Cochairmen Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung, launched a signature collection campaign supporting the revision of the Constitution in the direction of directly electing the president. Prior to this, on 4 February, students from 15 universities in Seoul formed, at Seoul University, a federal chapter of the movement to revise the Constitution and declared the launching of a signature collection campaign. This reflects the desire of all the people to abolish the fascist constitution, which was concocted through the use of bayonets, and to adopt a democratic constitution.

It is crystal clear that under the present Constitution and the fascist system designed to systematically guarantee the Chon Tu-hwan group's long-term power, we cannot imagine the peaceful transfer of power through the expression of desires in a democratic manner and through a fair and just election. The proposal for carrying out the 10-million signature collection campaign to revise the Constitution has been advanced to reflect this urgent demand, winning great support and sympathy from the people from all walks of life.

Frightened by the trend for the rapid expansion of the 10-million signature collection campaign for constitutional revision into a great march toward democracy throughout the country, reflecting public sentiment and encompassing people from all walks of life, the Chon Tu-hwan group has been zealously aimed at suppressing the people in a fascist manner with a wild desire to exterminate the struggle of the people from all walks of life.

The Chon Tu-hwan group's creation of a great whirlwind of tyranny in an attempt to arrest, imprison, and punish the initiators and supporters of the signature collection campaign for constitutional revision represents the dictator's dying struggle and once again reveals the fascist nature of traitors and the stranglers of freedom and democracy, who turn their backs on the people and fear public sentiment. Although the Chon Tu-hwan group is trying to strangle the people's will and aspirations, to maintain the one-man dictatorial system, and to fulfill a world desire for long-term power, this is an absurd feat.

The Chon Tu-hwan group should abandon this anachronistic, absurd desire, stop recklessly creating the whirlwind of tyranny, and immediately release unjustly detained students and off-stage figures. Our people will continuously and steadily carry out the 10-million signature campaign to revise the Constitution and will force Chon Tu-hwan to step down from the seat of power.

NKDP's Yi Min-u Arrested

SK181020 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA) -- The South Korean fascist clique are madly clamping down on opposition members, dissidents and students in a signature campaign for "constitutional" amendment.

In a wholesale roundup, above 40 people were picked up during the Sunday night and 27 more were detained Monday, 70 in all. Among those arrested was Yi Min-u, president of the "New Korea Democratic Party" (NKDP). He was taken home in a police car. Yi was later allowed to leave his home and held a press conference at which he declared: "The 'Government' is using police power to scare the people. But we will not waver in face of 'Government' threats and will continue with our peaceful campaign. We expect the people to join the campaign eagerly."

More than 400 students have been arrested so far this year for anti-"government" activities, including about 200 for supporting the signature campaign for "constitutional" amendment, foreign press reports said.

The fascist clique was reported by a radio from Seoul to have taken to police station 45 people additionally including the vice-president of the "NKDP" at 11 a.m. Monday for investigation.

NORTH'S THREAT TO ASIAN, OLYMPIC GAMES 'INSANITY'

SK171106 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2154 GMT 15 Feb 86

[NODONG SINMUN 16 February commentary: "Insanity of the Puppet Which Stakes Its Life on the Olympics"]

[Text] While being briefed on the provincial policy projects for 1986 by the puppet governor of North Chungchong Province in Chechon on 13 February, traitor Chon Tu-hwan babbled that vigilance should be maintained against the North's various forms of destructive acts expected with the approach of the 1986 Asian Games and the 1988 Olympics.

Saying that the two sports events scheduled for 1986 and 1988 are a godsend, the puppet clamored that anyone who is responsible for the collective undemocratic acts damaging the two sports events should be thoroughly punished, regardless of who they may be.

At a cabinet meeting held on the same day, the puppet prime minister also babbled that precautions should be taken to thoroughly prevent terrorist acts committed by somebody with the aim of checking the Asian and Olympic Games.

Under the pretext of social stability and the preservation of law and order in preparation for the Asian and Olympic Games, the entire police force in South Korea was placed on a murderous, armed, vigilant posture after a special order for an alert posture had been issued on 1 February, and the police are now kicking off suppression rackets in every corner. In the period 1-10 February alone, the fascist clique arrested some 9,000 people throughout South Korea by branding them as offenders and is now committing such brutal acts as charging, jailing, or referring to summary trial some 8,290 among them. This is a demonstrative example that shows the degree of the insanity of the fascist military clique which stakes its life on the Asian and Olympic Games.

It is the complicated internal situation of South Korea and the uncomfortable position of the puppets that drive the puppet Chon Tu-hwan clique, which has been holding to its fascist military dictatorship under the slogan of social stability and security, to agitate North-South confrontation and a consciousness of hostility, to threaten the people, and to create a whirlwind of suppression on the pretext of international sports events.

Despite the frenzied suppressive maneuvers of the puppet clique, the anti-U.S. and anti-fascist struggle of the youths, students, and people surges forward in South Korea with each passing day. The campaign of collecting 10 million signatures for the revision of the Constitution, an expression of the people's aspirations for democracy against dictatorship, appears to be expanding throughout South Korea by taking the form of a great march for democratization with the masses of all walks of life in line. The struggle of the youths and students, which exploded ahead of its season, shows sign of flaring up into a fiercer anti-U.S. and antifascist resistance struggle for democratization next month when the new semester begins following the winter vacation.

Voices denouncing the "Team Spirit-86" joint military exercise being conducted against our republic are also being heard loudly at home and abroad.

The argument that the Asian and Olympic Games should not be held in South Korea, which is in danger of kindling the flames of war and where the political situation is unstable, is becoming more powerful among the world's sports circles and social circles, and this makes the puppets more disconcerted and embarrassed. Under such circumstances, the Chon Tu-hwan ring is now frenziedly trying to bring the situation under control by linking it to us.

Public opinion at home and abroad is now viewing the tune of social stability and security, which the Chon Tu-hwan ring spreads by linking it with the Olympic Games. As an indication, in the event the foundation of its fascist rule is shaken as a result of the further deepening of the social and political crisis in South Korea, the Chon Tu-hwan ring might try to create another incident of bloodshed like the Kwangju tragedy by linking the crisis to the democratic forces in South Korea. Or it might unscrupulously commit a full-scale military provocation against our republic should the Asian and Olympic Games face the danger of bankruptcy.

Not only the Korean people, but also the world's rational people and people of conscience will never tolerate the adventurous and wicked plot of the Chon Tu-hwan ring to misuse the sacred international sports festival for impure political purposes.

LEADERSHIP TRAITS OF KIM CHONG-IL DEPICTED

SK150011 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 14 (KCNA) -- Many working people and students and children of Korea visit Hoeryong, a historic place. Hoeryong situated on the Northeastern part of the country is the birthplace of Mother Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable revolutionary fighter and heroine of the anti-Japanese struggle. Hoeryong tells about the noble traits of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il who went directly to young constructors of the Wangjaesan revolutionary site, not dropping in the native house of his mother.

One day in October, 1975, Comrade Kim Chong-il left on a trip for his third visit to the construction site of the Wangjaesan revolutionary site which was progressing in the final stage with the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea at hand. The officials accompanying him believed that this time he would surely drop in the old home in Hoeryong.

It was in May 1974 that he paid his first visit to Mt. Wangjae. Officials asked him to visit mother's old home. But Comrade Kim Chong-il said the young constructors were waiting for him and how could he visit his mother's old home first.

In March 1975, he was on the way to his second visit to the Wangjaesan revolutionary site. He told officials that they had not yet relieved the president of his cares and he should certainly visit it some day. As he had passed by the town twice, promising that he would visit it some day, the officials believed that this time he would certainly do so.

When the train pulled into the Hoeryong station, Comrade Kim Chong-il gazed over the landscape of mother's hometown for a while. He said he wanted to drop in Hoeryong, but had not yet done his revolutionary task assigned him by the president and he should pass without stopping over there. He told the officials from Hoeryong who came with the ardent wishes of its people to greet him in their town that he had many other places to go before Hoeryong.

Comrade Kim Chong-il intends to visit mother's birthplace after calling at every part of the country where people live and work.

Comrade Kim Chong-il is the sagacious leader of our people personifying the noble traits of President Kim Il-song who went straight to Kangson to discuss the state affairs with the workers, not dropping in his native village Mangyongdae, though it was within a hailing distance, when he returned in triumph after liberating the country.

Displays Compassion for People

SK152327 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 15 (KCNA) -- Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is a people's leader who spares nothing for the people.

He learned that the population of a district of Hamhung, an industrial city, was envious of the city water of the central district tasting better. Always deeply concerned for the people's life, he summoned competent officials and asked them detailed questions about it. The officials told him that the laying of water pipes from the central district would involve a complex project requiring a large fund. But he instructed them to start the project soon, saying they must not neglect the people's with, however large fund it might cost, now that they knew it.

Thus there started a project for laying new pipes in a section of scores of Ri at the cost of a large fund, instead of the old pipes, for the mere reason that the water in the central district tasted better.

It was when the project was near completion that the service pipes were laid, water of the new source could not be supplied to the population for the lack of some additional equipment. Informed of this, Comrade Kim Chong-il said construction was for the people and so necessary equipment should be allotted to the waterworks first. And he took a step for sending to this project equipment which had been intended for an important construction object.

As a result, the water of the new source tasting good flowed into all the houses of the district on the fete of April.

But this is not the end of the story about the tenderest love of Comrade Kim Chong-il for the people.

An organ was planning to construct a factory a little off a residential district. Learning this, he instructed officials to choose another building lot for the factory, saying a thing harmful to the people can never be allowed, however profitable it might be economically. So the already chosen building lot was moved to another place, though this meant a big economic loss, so that not a drop of waste water might filter into the drinking water for the people.

Each drop of the pure and clean water supplied daily to our people is imbued with the tenderest love of Comrade Kim Chong-il for them.

DIPLOMATIC CORPS SENDS KIM CHONG-IL BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

SK171021 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0900 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 17 (KCNA) -- A basket of flowers and congratulatory letter came to Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on February 15 on his birthday from the diplomatic corps in Pyongyang.

They were handed to Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, by Doyen of the diplomatic corps Constantin Iftodi, Romanian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Korea.

The letter expressed the belief that the multilateral relations of friendship and cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the countries represented by the diplomatic corps would continue to develop under the deep concern and care of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

KIM HWAN-LED DELEGATION LEAVES FOR THAILAND VISIT

SK151058 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 15 (KCNA) -- A delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Kim Hwan [no title as received] left here today by air for a visit to Thailand. It was seen off at the airport by Vice-Premier Chong Chun-ki, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kang Sok-chu and Soviet Ambassador to Korea Nikolay Shubnikov.

WPK DELEGATION RETURNS FROM CUBAN CP CONGRESS

SK141023 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 14 (KCNA) -- The delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and Vice-President of the DPRK, returned home by air on February 14 after attending the Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba.

It was met at the airport by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president of the DPRK, and other officials concerned. Also present were Danilo Sotolongo, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Cuban Embassy in Pyongyang, and Nikolay Shubnikov, Soviet ambassador to Korea.

The delegation left Havana on February 10.

KIM IL-SONG RECEIVES TANZANIAN ECONOMIC GROUP

SK151054 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Pyongyang, February 15 (KCNA) -- The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the Tanzanian Government economic delegation headed by K. Malima, minister of state of the President's Office in charge of international cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, on a visit to Korea.

Present on the occasion were Vice-Premier Kim Pok-sin, Minister of External Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Yong-sop. Tanzanian Ambassador to Korea Clement George Kahama was also present.

The head of the delegation conveyed a personal letter and gift of Tanzanian president Ali Hassan Mwinyi to president Kim Il-song. President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

KIM YONG-SAM AGAIN PLACED UNDER HOUSE ARREST

HK190211 Hong Kong AFP in English 0149 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Seoul, Feb 19 (AFP) -- South Korean opposition leader Kim Yong-sam was again placed under house arrest today, apparently to prevent him from leading a petition campaign demanding direct presidential elections, his aides said. About 200 uniformed and plainclothes police were posted outside Mr Kim's residence, and a small bus blocked the alley leading to the house, they said.

One of Mr Kim's aides told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the 58-year-old opposition politician had planned to have a luncheon meeting with newspaper executives at a downtown restaurant. He added that there was no explanation of the police move, nor was there any prior notice.

This is the third time Mr Kim has been placed under house arrest since the opposition New Korea Democratic Party launched last Wednesday a campaign to collect 10 million signatures to support reform of the election system. It is pressing for a constitutional amendment to provide for direct presidential election instead of the current system which uses an electoral college.

The government of President Chon Tu-hwan has threatened stiff punishment to organizers of the drive.

The nation's top political dissident, Kim Tae-Chung, 60, has been confined to his home by police for a week with his telephone lines cut. He was placed under house arrest after defying a government ban on his political activity and adding his signature to the petition.

NKDP CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT'S IGNORING NEUTRALITY

SK190040 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] The main opposition New Korea Democratic Party yesterday criticized the government for ignoring the public servants' right to political neutrality by forcing them to read pamphlets condemning the opposition signature-gathering campaign.

NDP spokesman Hong Sa-tok said, "The Foreign and Culture-Information Ministries, at the expense of taxpayers, have published and distributed brochures criticizing and distorting the drive, thus denying public officials' political neutrality."

In a statement, he demanded that the government take harsh disciplinary steps against responsible officials and collect promptly the circulated materials. Hong maintained that the circulars describe "the signature-collecting drive for restoration of democracy" as a move "to instigate discontented students, workers and religious persons under the pretext of a signature gathering campaign."

Meanwhile, the Council for the Promotion of Democracy denounced that the government's crackdown on the drive proves "the undemocratic nature of the government."

In a statement, CPD spokesman Han Kwang-ok said that the clampdown by the government would not dent its firm will for the revision of the Constitution.

NKDP OBJECTS TO COURT INJUNCTION ON CHAPTER HEADS

SK190139 Seoul THE KOREAN TIMES in English 19 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] The major opposition New Korea Democratic Party yesterday filed a counteraction against a court injunction suspending the NDP's replacement of chiefs of seven local chapters, as requested by those to be displaced.

The written objection, in the name of NDP member lawyer Mok Yo-sang, was submitted to the Seoul District Civil Court. Rep. Mok asserted that it is the right of a political party to decide on whether or not the leadership in a local chapter is "contested."

He also argued that the court lacked consistency, pointing out the fact that it accepted the objections by the seven chairmen of the NDP local chapters, while it dismissed motions by five others at the same time. He recalled the fact that the same court turned down similar objections by the members of the New Democratic Korea Party last year on the grounds that "it is the proper right of a political party."

The chairmen who submitted the objections are those who were defeated in the Feb. 12 general elections as NDP candidates.

DJP LAWMAKERS BRIEFED ON SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN

SK190138 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 19 Feb 86 p 4

[Text] A caucus of the ruling DJP was held for six hours, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the party's Central Political Training Institute on the southeastern outskirts of Seoul yesterday. Party lawmakers were given 10 different booklets for "publicity." They explained why the opposition camp's signature-collection campaign should be blocked and why the Constitution should be protected.

During the caucus, Rep. Hyon Hong-chu, the party's leading theoretician, briefed the lawmakers on the background of the NDP's campaign. Contents of the discussions at the closed-door meeting were later reported to the press by party spokesmen.

Party officers also made analyses of the current economic and social situations at the caucus, which was more like an orientation session than an event for free-wheeling debate.

Hyon reportedly concluded that "the NDP made its call for revision of the Constitution in an attempt to disrupt the constitutional order."

"In particular," he pointed out, "the NDP seeks to turn the signature-collection drive to a revolutionary move by accepting the claims of some radical students for the abrogation of the current Constitution." Explaining the inevitability of the government's hawkish action against the drive, Hyon said, "The NDP's drive should never be allowed because it is expected to bring about a 'distinct and present danger' to the state."

Party secretary general Rep. Chong Sun-tok stressed that the DJP lawmakers are hoped to concentrate their efforts on helping the people understand the unlawfulness of the NDP's drive. In a discussion session at the end of the day-long meeting, several lawmakers made their own criticisms of the NDP's current mode of political struggle.

CHON APPOINTS NEW PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN

AK150424 Seoul YONHAP in English 0255 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 15 (OANA-YONHAP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan Saturday appointed Chon Ku-ho, president of the KYONGHYANG DAILY NEWS, as presidential spokesman.

Chong, 50, replaces Hwang Son-pil who was elected president of the Munhwa Broadcasting Company (MBC) in a meeting of the MBC shareholders.

A graduate of Seoul National University College of Liberal Arts and Science, Chong started his journalistic career in 1959 and became the president of the daily in 1981.

Meanwhile, Yi Ung-hui, who had served as MBC president since 1982, was named president of the Korea Press Center in a meeting of shareholders Saturday.

INDUSTRIES GROUP WARNS AGAINST POLITICAL UNREST

SK190105 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] The Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) yesterday issued a statement calling for the "national unity and compromise" to assure another round of economic upbeat by effectively capitalizing on the current favorable economic climate.

In its special statement, titled "Economic Leap Forward and Favorable World Economic Milieu," the economic forum argued that the nation is now at a major turning point to realize another economic takeoff. However, it warned, current political and social unrest is threatening to put the national foundation and security in jeopardy, hampering any kinds of sound economic development vital for the national future.

Noting that the nation is facing a "capital opportunity" to achieve another economic resilience amid the unprecedented favorable world economic climate, marked by the lower oil price and the appreciation of the Japanese yen currency, the statement maintained that now is the very time for the entire people of the nation to pool their wisdom to take full advantage of such favorable economic conditions.

"Given this," the FKI said, "any kinds of political confrontation and social discord should be dissolved under a great premise of accelerating the creation of advanced fatherland."

In particular, the nation now has a historic mission to successfully stage the two great sports events -- 1986 Asian Games and 1988 Summer Olympics, both to be held in Seoul, it noted.

Against this backdrop, the nation should wisely transcend all social conflicts, which is essential for the national development, it also argued.

"The lesson of the history shows that any kinds of economic development are not possible without social stability," the FKI said, adding that only a national political compromise will serve to boost the nation's overall economy. We have historically witnessed many countries which were frustrated on the threshold of becoming advanced countries because of the social unrest and conflict," it said. Pointing out that the nation has wisely weathered the past adverse economic climate, the FKI said the people should exert all-out efforts to take the maximum advantage of this tremendous opportunity to materialize another economic surge.

SPK ON HUN SEN MOSCOW TV INTERVIEW ON ARMS RACE

BK160633 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0408 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Phnom Penh, 16 Feb (SPK) -- "It is necessary to stop the arms race on earth and prevent its extension into space." This is what Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers and foreign minister, said in an interview with Soviet television broadcast on Thursday [13 February] on the Vremya program.

The peace plan proposed by the Soviet Union, Hun Sen stresses, which envisages a complete dismantlement of nuclear weapons before the end of this century, completely responds to this mission and is supported by those concerned with the future of mankind.

Along with progressive mankind, the Cambodian people are for the elimination of the threat of nuclear war stirred up by the United States, said Chairman Hun Sen.

HENG SAMRIN RECEIVES CHU HUY MAN DELEGATION

OW181624 Hanoi VNA in English 1530 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 18 -- Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and president of the Kampuchean State Council received in Phnom Penh this morning the visiting Vietnamese party and state delegation led by Chu Huy Man, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice president of the State Council.

The Vietnamese delegation had arrived to present the Gold Star Order on Heng Samrin and the Ho Chi Minh Order on other leading officials of Kampuchea on the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the Vietnam-Kampuchea peace, friendship and cooperation treaty.

Present at the reception was Say Phuthang, Political Bureau member of the K.P.R.P. Central Committee, vice president of the Kampuchean State Council.

Speaking on the occasion, Heng Samrin said that the victories of the Kampuchean revolution over the past seven years were inseparable from the great assistance and fraternal cooperation of the Vietnamese party, government and people. The qualitatively new development of the special solidarity and comprehensive cooperation between the two countries has become a decisive factor for the success of the revolution in each country, he stressed.

He further said that the presentation of Vietnamese high distinctions to Kampuchean party and state leaders by the Vietnamese party and state was a fine demonstration of the Kampuchean-Vietnamese solidarity and a great encouragement for the entire party and people of Kampuchea.

The Vietnamese delegation left Phnom Penh for home later today.

CHAN VEN VIEWS CAMBODIA-VIETNAM ALLIANCE

BK161018 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Statement by Chan Ven, general secretary of the PRK Council of State and president of the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association, in an interview granted to an unidentified VNA correspondent in the PRK on the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam-Cambodia treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation, 18 February -- date of interview not given; read by announcer]

[Text] The political report by the KPRP Central Committee to the Fifth KPRP Congress stressed: In the recent past as well as for a long time in the future, a historic truth is that the strategic alliance among Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos in general and between Cambodia and Vietnam in particular is a basic factor guaranteeing the victory of the Cambodian revolution as well as the three Indochinese countries' revolution in their struggle against common enemies. After 7 January 1979, this strategic alliance developed with a new quality.

The Cambodia and Vietnamese peoples are next-door neighbors. Whenever invaded by the enemy, the peoples of both countries suffered the same fate, falling victim to massacres, oppression, and exploitation. To safeguard their independence and to liberate their homelands, the two peoples have wholeheartedly cooperated and assisted each other. During the over 100 years of struggle against the French colonialist aggressors, various Cambodian and Vietnamese patriotic movements came to each other's aid. Since 1930 and after the victory of the August revolution in Vietnam, especially since 1951, under the leadership of the Indochinese Communist Party, the struggle in each country developed vigorously and cooperation between the Khmer People's Revolutionary Party -- now the KPRP -- and the CPV became increasingly close.

During the anti-U.S. struggle period, the solidarity among the Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Lao peoples in general and between the Cambodian and Vietnamese peoples in particular developed ceaselessly. In this period, tens of thousands of Vietnamese cadres and combatants came to Cambodia and Laos to discharge their glorious proletarian international duty. The peoples and armies of the three countries cooperated to frustrate large-scale enemy operations and finally achieved complete victory.

However, the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique, on order of its Beijing master, murdered more than 8 million Cambodians within only 3 years, 8 months, and 20 days and waged a barbarous border war against Vietnam. Once again the Vietnamese Army and people cooperated with genuine Cambodian patriots under the banner of the Kampuchea National United Front for National Salvation to smash the genocidal regime on 7 January 1979.

Over the past 7 years and more, Cambodia-Vietnam-Laos and Cambodia-Vietnam relations have been characterized by special ties of solidarity and all-round cooperation. The Cambodia-Vietnam treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation signed on 18 February 1979, the summit conference of the three Indochinese countries held in Vientiane in February 1983, and the conferences of the Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Lao foreign ministers have helped Cambodia-Vietnam-Lao solidarity develop stronger than ever before.

Over the past 56 years and more, since the Indochinese Communist Party was founded, various reactionary forces have sought by all means to undermine our strategic alliance.

The French colonialists and U.S. imperialists did everything they could to divide the three Indochinese peoples, and the Beijing expansionists have been even crueler in their efforts to sabotage the strategic alliance among Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos and especially between Cambodia and Vietnam in an attempt to invade and occupy the three countries and to turn them into a springboard for expansion into Southeast Asia. However, all their schemes and acts have repeatedly failed and will meet with complete failure.

Vietnam has promptly helped deliver Cambodia from the scourge of genocide and effectively assisted it in achieving national revival and safeguarding the revolutionary gains. Vietnam has consistently aided the Cambodian revolutionary cause, has sent its army volunteers to save the Cambodian people from genocide, and at present is continuing to help them protect their revolutionary gains. Vietnam has also dispatched specialists and technicians to assist Cambodia in achieving national revival. In short, Vietnam has given material aid and moral support to Cambodia and has even shed blood for it. This assistance is extremely noble and will last forever like the leaves of the Truong Son forests and the water of the Mekong River. I can affirm that no other friendly country can aid the Cambodian revolutionary cause and effectively as Vietnam.

With the purpose of consolidating and developing the special relations between Cambodia and Vietnam on the basis of complete equality and respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and ceaselessly strengthening their militant solidarity and mutual assistance in all domains, recently, on 27 December 1985, the PRK and the SRV signed an agreement on the delimitation of the national border aimed at building a border of lasting peace and friendship between the two countries.

History over the past decades has shown that whenever the enemy commits aggression in Vietnam, he also invades Cambodia and Laos; that whenever the aggressors come the peoples of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos frequently cooperate and help one another oppose the enemy, sharing weal and woe; and that when firmly united the three countries win and when divided they lose, and even suffer catastrophes such as genocide in Pol Pot's time.

On the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the signing of the Cambodia-Vietnam treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation, we are elated to note that the special solidarity and all-round cooperation between the two countries has become increasingly closer and stronger. Through trials, we have come to understand better than ever before the lesson of close Cambodia-Vietnam solidarity. As Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin stressed at the meeting held to mark the 7th anniversary of Victory Day, 7 January: The two most basic lessons and the two most decisive factors are the strength of national unity and that of international solidarity, first of all the solidarity among Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos.

COMPARISON OF CGDK STATEMENT ON INDOCHINA SUMMIT

BK120130 [Editorial report] (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodia at 2315 GMT on 11 February carries on 8-minute text of the 8 February CGDK statement on settlement of the Cambodian conflict. This version has been compared with and found to be identical to the statement carried by (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian at 0500 GMT on 11 February run on page H 1 of the 12 February ASIA & PACIFIC DAILY REPORT.

APPEALS COURT ALLOWS BAIL FOR 5 COUP SUSPECTS

BK181040 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 18 Feb 86 p 1

[Text] The Appeals Court this morning decided to grant bail of 2.5 million baht to each of the five former senior military officers facing charges in connection with the September 9 coup attempt. The defendants were instructed to apply to the Court of the First Instance (the Criminal Court) for bail. It is expected that the five men will be freed within a day or two.

The decision to grant temporary release for the five key suspects came after the Public Prosecutor told the Criminal Court that Special Branch Division investigators would not object to the bail on grounds that the five suspects did not show any sign of attempting to escape during previous court proceedings and that their release would not pose any danger to the trial.

After being told of the Special Branch Division's decision, the Criminal Court, which had earlier turned down the suspects' requests for bail, passed the matter on to the Appeals Court for decision-making. The Appeals Court made the decision shortly before noon today.

To be released are former supreme commander Gen Soem na Nakhon, former prime minister Gen Kriangsak Chamnanan, former deputy Army chief Gen Yot Thep-Hatsadin na Ayutthaya, former deputy supreme commanders ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Arun Phromthep and ACM Krasae Intharat. The five former officers and 35 other coup suspects will appear again at the Criminal Court on Friday to listen to a cross-examination of the third state witness, Gen Bunrit Thanthranon, by their defence lawyers.

The hearing, originally scheduled for last Friday and tomorrow, was put off until this Friday when one of the coup suspects fell sick.

The Special Branch Division objected to granting bail for the other suspects on grounds that they would attempt to escape if released.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL GROUP VISITS REFUGEE CAMPS

BK180937 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] The U.S. congressional delegation led by New York Congressman Gerald Solomon had returned from a visit to Vietnam and toured Cambodian refugee camps at the Thai-Cambodian border. Accompanied by officials of the Foreign Ministry, the group visited Site 2 in Ta Phraya District, Prachin Buri Province, where over 140,000 Cambodian civilian refugees are taking shelter. During the visit, the U.S. congressmen also met General Dien Del, the military leader of the Democratic Kampuchean forces.

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM U.S., VIEWS TALKS

BK170229 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Feb 86 p 3

[Text] Thailand will not be as seriously affected by the U.S. Farm Act as expected, Commerce Permanent Secretary Wichan Niwatwong said last night. Mr Wichan, who led a delegation to the United States to discuss the effects of the Farm Act, described the result of his mission as satisfactory in that he has come to learn more about the legislation. The act will come into force on April 15.

He said American authorities had promised to keep the Thai Government informed about steps being taken in connection with the legislation in order to allow the Thai Government to express its views.

He was also told that the U.S. had no intention of flooding the rice market with its grain in competition with Thai rice, but only wanted to release its huge surplus stocks. Mr Wichan said that assurance was also given by U.S. officials that Thailand would be given fair treatment on the rice issue because they had discovered that Thai rice was not heavily subsidised by the Government.

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER ON ISSUE OF U.S. BASES

BK150916 Bangkok MATCHON in Thai 15 Feb 86 p 3

[Text] Deputy Defense Minister ACM Phaniang Kantarat said he had nothing to say when asked about the possibility of the United States moving its military bases from the Philippines to Thailand as the situation in that country is changing. He added that the United States has not made any approach to the Thai Government on this matter. However, the United States must be able to recall the past when the Thai people drove the military out of here. The U.S. base at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean is as big as that in Hawaii. He does not know if the United States has any strategic reason to have military bases in Thailand or not. It is difficult to guess what the United States has in mind. ACM Phaniang said that the United States probably wants to have military bases in Thailand, but it must also consider its yankee-go-home experience and listen to the opinions of the American people and Congress.

Asked if the situation in the Philippines has any effect on the presence of the U.S. military bases in that country, ACM Phaniang said that nothing will happen if the United States continues to support President Marcos if he wins the election. The situation will not be bad either if Mrs Aquino wins the election and the United States supports her. The United States and the Philippines will have to hold talks on relations between the two countries. Asked about his opinion if the United States opens military bases in Thailand, ACM Phaniang said the matter must be studied carefully to see if the Thai people can accept it or not and if it would jeopardize our national sovereignty or not. Foreign countries might look at us as a U.S. colony.

SITTHI INTERVIEWED ON CAMBODIA, PHILIPPINES

BK160100 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Feb 86 p 9

["Excerpts" of "exclusive interview" granted by Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Sitthi Sawetsila to unidentified correspondent of THE NATION; date and place not given]

[Text] Q: How do you read the latest developments on the Kampuchean issue? Have you detected any indications to a possible dialogue or breakthrough?

A: Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja has just informed us that he is highly optimistic over the prospect of a Vietnamese military pull-out from Kampuchea. We let Dr Mokhtar carry the ball. We are now waiting for a confirmation on the date of his visit to Vietnam. He has postponed his trip to Hanoi and the first meeting (between senior officials of the two countries) failed to attain the objective that they (the Indonesians) had set. They will meet again. As for his visit to Hanoi, I understand that he may go there late next month. On the surface, Vietnam looks flexible but as far as substance goes, we have detected nothing new from the latest joint communique of the three Indochinese foreign ministers who met recently in Vientiane. I think we should wait and see. I have made it clear that if we are convinced of Vietnamese sincerity and Mokhtar makes some headway, then.. we do not shut the door to efforts to break the deadlock.

We also want to talk with them. We think that they are keeping up the search for a political solution and their objective is to get us to accept the Heng Samrin regime as a fait accompli. In the meantime, the Vietnamese are seeking to break up the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK). Formerly, they said that they would welcome back the rank and file of the Khmer Rouge with the exception of some of its leaders. Lately, they said they were willing to work with the two non-communist partners in the coalition. At the same time, they continue their military efforts to score further results but they are in a difficult situation in the field.

In the final analysis, their moves towards a political settlement are aimed at getting the world to accept the fait accompli. The only thing we are concerned about now is the so-called Vietnamization of Kampuchea. Some said that so far, up to about one to two million Vietnamese people have been resettled in Kampuchea but according to our information, the Vietnamese settlers in Kampuchea total about 700,000 now. But the longer the Vietnamese stay in Kampuchea, the more the anti-Vietnamese sentiments among Khmer people will grow. As for the situation on the Thai-Kampuchean frontier, I believe that the Vietnamese have not mounted a large-scale offensive because Dr Mokhtar is probing the possibility of a political settlement through diplomatic exercise. Secondly, there are no targets (large-scale resistance strongholds) on the border for the Vietnamese to attack. The targets are civilian camps while the resistance guerrillas have moved into the interior around Tonle Sap. Vietnam has admitted that it has sustained considerable damage and casualties as a result of the resistance activities.

Q: What has ASEAN asked Dr Mokhtar to do in his diplomatic contacts with the Vietnamese?

A: We have not assigned him to attain any specific objective. He has been just probing the Vietnamese mind. But Mokhtar wants us to feed him with "ammunition" on a joint ASEAN stand in conceivable talks with the Vietnamese. We (ASEAN members) have not formulated a blueprint on our joint stand towards the issue. Well, Mokhtar has talked to the Vietnamese several times but they were all on a bilateral basis. We will discuss the proposal to formulate such a blueprint in the upcoming meetings of senior officials in Bangkok and Manila and then the annual ASEAN ministerial meeting. As for our stands toward the proposed blueprint, we believe whatever we will do on the Kampuchean issue, we should ask the Kampuchean people for their views before we take any action. We cannot impose our will on the Khmer people. This is our basic position. It's the Khmer people who should engage themselves in dialogues to settle the Kampuchean conflict. I disagree with the Russian proposition for a meeting between ASEAN members and the three Indochinese countries because, after all, we are only putting forwards a proposal and not a party involved in the conflict. It is in a way an international issue involving superpowers like Moscow and Beijing. Thailand cannot conclude an agreement with Vietnam because it will not take effect without approval from superpowers. But we should not shut the door to all possible avenues that may lead to a breakthrough. I would like to say that Vietnam is engulfed in serious economic problems. The Vietnamese foreign reserve had dwindled to only about US\$40 million which can be used up in three weeks' time while their external debts amount to about \$6 to \$7 billion, including \$2 billion which Vietnam owes to Western creditors. The Vietnamese said they have exported their own rice but in fact, Vietnam has not produced sufficient rice to meet domestic consumption. They export high-quality rice while importing low-grade rice for domestic consumption. The per capita income in Vietnam is only about \$40. The Vietnamese people are suffering very much. The present Vietnamese policy lacks the consideration that other countries are making progress incessantly.

Q: How about the Russians? How do you assess the Russian attitude towards the region following the rise to power of Gorbachev? How do you assess the outcome of the summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Gorbachev?

A: Well, I believe that the chance of a global nuclear war breaking out is dim because nobody wants that to happen. But we are concerned about the escalation of regional conflicts and so we asked the Americans to raise the Kampuchean issue in the summit. The U.S. president did raise the issue and we are quite satisfied with that. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger also raised the issue at a different level of talks with the Russians. The Japanese also raised the issue when Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze visited the country recently. The Japanese told the Russians that if Moscow continues to support Vietnam this way, countries in this region cannot help looking at the Russians with suspicion. I understand that Shevardnadze will visit Indonesia and proceed to Thailand to attend an annual ESCAP [Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific] conference in April. If so, we are willing to welcome him and we will definitely make our views towards the Russian role clear to him. It's really a threat and an obstacle to the realization of our concept to turn the region into a zone of Freedom, Peace and Neutrality (ZOPFAN). The Soviet Union is a superpower and she should view the region in a wider perspective. Right now, the Soviet Union under Gorbachev appears to be pre-occupied with their domestic problems which could not be solved if they continue to provide bulky aid to their client states like the Afghanistan regime and elsewhere in the world. Moscow has been seeking to accommodate Beijing and I have been assured by the Chinese that they still adhere to the three conditions for normalization of Sino-Soviet ties (withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, suspension of Soviet support for the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea and pull-out of massive Russian troops from the Sino-Soviet frontier). I hope that the Russians would seriously consider the conditions. China is a key factor compared to Vietnam....

Q: How about the proposal for ASEAN members to hold a summit?

A: Well, I think we will have to wait until the situation in the Philippines becomes stable. But on the other hand, we should move ahead. Even Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew agrees on the merits of such a summit. He agreed in the sense that we should consolidate our (economic) positions before dealing with other countries outside the regional grouping. I would say that the general view is that we should have a summit, though the Malaysian Cabinet will have to approve the proposal. I have explained the merits of a summit to Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Ritthauddeen and I think he understands the issue well. Perhaps, the Malaysian Cabinet has discussed the matter. I have not got the latest report. Laterly, some people have suggested that we should hold two summits and the Philippines by alphabetical order should host the first and Thailand can host the second. But I am not saying that we have proposed to host a summit. I have asked the Indonesians to host the summit (during his visit to Jakarta last September) on grounds that Indonesia has hosted a successful summit the last time in Bali and you know, it's good to hold a summit there because Indonesia is a big country. But Jakarta is not ready to host it. So, right now the matter is still inconclusive. We don't mind whether it will be one or two summits. But all in all, the general view among us are in favour of holding at least a summit. Our last summit took place 10 years ago and next year will be the 20th anniversary of the inception of ASEAN.

I think we need a summit because there has emerged a tendency towards intra-ASEAN protectionism. You know, when we become poorer, we become increasingly self-centred, and hence the negative trend. I must also confess that we have not gone far in the areas of economic cooperation among us compared to our political cooperation. There are areas where we can strengthen our cooperation. Tourism is a good example -- if we can arrange for ASEAN package tours, then it will help boost our revenues a lot. Tourism is one of our top earners and just imagine how much we will benefit if we can double our revenue from tourism. You know, instead of cooperation, we collect 500 baht from Thai tourists going to Malaysia which in turn would naturally consider increasing its fee for the Malaysians coming here.

Q: You mentioned your concerns about the situation in the Philippines. Can you elaborate?

A: Well, I don't think I can speak much on the matter. I would just say that we are concerned with the volatile situation there and we give our full moral support, hoping to see the Filipinos settle their domestic problems peacefully. The repercussions (of a drastic change in the Philippines) may be tremendous if something untowards came about in the Philippines.

RESTRICTION LIFTED ON RESETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES

BK180249 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 Feb 86 p 5

[by Sinfra Tansarawut]

[Excerpt] The government has lifted the restriction imposed on the resettlement of Indochinese refugees by announcing that all Laotians and Vietnamese residing in the Interior Ministry-controlled camps are entitled to go to third countries, informed sources said. The announcement was made by the Interior Ministry during a monthly meeting of the Committee for Coordination of Services to Displaced Persons in Thailand (CCSDPT) on February 7. The meeting was attended by international relief officials and Thai authorities concerned with refugee programmes. The sources said the government is now opening the camps of Chiang Kham, Ban Winai, Ban Na Pho and Si Khiu for officials of resettlement countries to interview the refugees. According to the Interior Ministry, Chiang Kham in Phayao houses 11,168 hilltribe Laotians; Ban Winai in Loei houses 45,094 hilltribe Laotians; Ban Na Pho in Nakhon Phanom houses 36,963 lowland Laotians and Si Khiu in Nakhon Ratchasima houses 4,283 Vietnamese who arrived in Thailand by boat. The ministry would also transfer 670 Vietnamese from Songkhla reception centre to Si Khiu so that they may also be interviewed, the sources said.

The "clemency period" will begin as soon as the ministry sends letters to foreign and local agencies dealing with Indochinese refugees to officially inform them about the decision, according to the sources. The period will last until next year. The letters are expected to reach the agencies next week. "The government views that 1986 and 1987 should be 'the resettlement year' in which every refugee will be interviewed for resettlement in third countries," one of the sources said. The sources said the government would consult with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to deal with those refugees left after the end of 1987. The government previously set as a policy that refugees who entered Ban Na Pho camp after 1977 were regarded as "illegal immigrants" and were not allowed for resettlement in third countries, according to the sources. The policy was also enforced with refugees arriving at Chiang Kham and Si Khiu after 1981. Western embassies here complained that the policy also hindered a number of refugees who were eligible for resettlement in third countries.

The sources said the government exercised the policy because it wanted to block the influx of Indochinese refugees who might see Thailand as a way station to new homes in Western countries. "The government also wanted the resettlement countries to take the refugees who had previously arrived." However, the sources said the policy caused a large number of refugees to be stranded in Thailand, a situation against the intention of the government which wants the refugees to leave the country as soon as possible. The government was not afraid that the modification would attract more Indochinese to flee into Thailand since they would be screened by Thai authorities before being accepted into the camps, the sources said. The screening conspicuously reduced refugee arrivals.

RADIO CRITICIZES REAGAN'S STATE OF UNION ADDRESS

BK150950 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Station Commentary: "U.S. President's Warlike Policy"]

[Text] The Americans are entering the new year with sorrow. The shock of the horrible accident of the shuttle spaceship Challenger was not yet over when the Americans received the State of the Union message read by President Reagan in the new year. This message neither reflected the real economic situation of the country nor responded to the most earnest aspiration of the majority of the American people. In his new year message, President Reagan laid much stress on the achievement in the first year of his second presidential term by saying that the U.S. economy is now more thriving and stable than that during the past 40 years; that the United States will enter a new and dynamic stage without inflation, unemployment, and deficit of the federal budget; and that to maintain a powerful United States of America is a vital question to the country's security.

Reality in the United States in the past 5 years has rejected what President Reagan has claimed. In 1985 U.S. economy only increased by 2.5 percent as compared with 6.9 percent in 1984, while the number of jobless people mounted to 8.5 million, accounting for 7.2 percent of the labor force, and the Federal budget deficit (?recorded) a never seen figure. Due to a great military spending -- about more than \$200 billion -- the Reagan administration has to reduce its spending for social and economic development. To reduce the deficit, President Reagan proposed to reduce the budget reserved for public health, social welfare, and jobs -- the most urgent demand of millions of poor Americans. Reagan's State of the Union message showed that the U.S. administration will continue a policy which only favors the rich.

Concerning the U.S. foreign policy, President Reagan laid the necessity to maintain the [words indistinct], namely, to rearm the U.S. Army, modernize strategic forces, and carry out the "star wars" program in an attempt to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union.

President Reagan even asked the Congress to increase the budget for the Pentagon to carry out a dangerous military program, especially the SDI, which may cost \$1,000 billion. More brazenly still is that, in his State of the Union message, President Reagan affirmed the U.S. continuation to carry out its terrorist policy and military threat against the national liberation movements and the countries which follow an independent policy. The U.S. President did not conceal his intention to pour more oil into the flame of regional conflicts in an attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

Through Reagan's State of the Union message, large sections of the American people are bitterly aware that the Reagan administration is following a policy pursued by previous U.S. Administrations, that is arms instead of butter and bread. American Senator Michael of the Democratic Party was right when he said that President Reagan did not put forth any solution to the present urgent problems of the United States. Reagan's budget and finance policy is pushing millions of American families into misery. Huge budget deficit and large import surplus showed that the United States is living in debt.

To progressive world public opinion, President Reagan's State of the Union message provided them another proof to doubt Reagan's claim of goodwill for peace and readiness to negotiate with the Soviet Union to ease world tension.

In recent period, particularly since the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva, the United States has not done what is needed to be done.

On the contrary, it obstinately plunged headlong into adventure. This fact further proved the U.S. intention to continue accelerating the arms race, taking what it called the threat from the Soviet Union as a pretext to force its move. Although trying to put on the wings of the dove, President Reagan remains a warmonger, nurturing many dangerous ambitions. What President Reagan has done in the recent period, particularly his State of the Union message, are contradicting to Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who has put forth a number of initiatives, especially the overall program on the elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of this century. This makes mankind see clearly who desires peace and who is a culprit of the present tense and complicated situation in the world.

PRC SHELLING 11 JANUARY-9 FEBRUARY RECOUNTED

BK171213 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] From 11 January to 9 February 1986, Chinese troops fired nearly 19,000 artillery shells on many areas of the six Vietnamese northern border provinces. From 11 to 17 January 1986 Chinese troops fired 18,000 mortar and artillery rounds on these provinces, destroying 20 people's houses, killing or wounding 21 persons -- mostly old people and children. More seriously still is that Chinese troops fired 1,000 artillery shells on several places in Ha Tuyen Province when the people were celebrating the traditional lunar new year festival. Meanwhile, groups of Chinese scouts laid ambushes and infiltrated into Dong Van District, Ha Tuyen Province.

RADIO FEATURE ON BORDER SITUATION, PRC ACTIONS

BK140759 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Station editor Vu Dinh Vinh's feature "Heighten Vigilance for National Defense"]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends, we have just welcomed the New Year of the Tiger amid an atmosphere of joy, enthusiasm, thrift, and vigilance. During the nation's traditional Tet holidays, our combatants in all parts of the country, especially on the northern border, and in fraternal Laos and Cambodia celebrated the coming of spring amid the warm feelings reserved for them by people from throughout the country and with a high level of vigilance and combat readiness, and they fulfilled all the tasks assigned in defending the fatherland's territory and protecting the people during the Tet holidays. We are always vigilant and ready because the Beijing powerholders still display their hostility toward our people. Only 4 days before Tet, at a press conference in Beijing, they slanderously accused Vietnam of violating Chinese territory and claimed the Vietnam was preparing for invasion, and so forth; and on the strength of this, they declared that China would decide on the time and scale of its counter-attacks depending on the situation, and that Chinese forces stationed along the Sino-Vietnamese border are ready.

While we are always displaying our goodwill, during the Tet holidays from 7-9 February, China fired nearly 1,000 artillery shells on Vi Xuyen, Ha Tuyen Province, regardless of the legitimate desire of the people on both sides of the border to welcome the new spring in peace. Every year, following the lunar new year, we cannot help but recall the event of 17 February, the day when China launched a large-scale war of invasion against our country's six northern border provinces back in 1979. The 600,000-strong aggressor army sustained heavy defeats and had to flee back across the border. Nevertheless, for 7 years now, the dark shadow of a new war of aggression has been hanging heavily in the sky. Ever since, the Chinese side has maintained hundreds of thousands of soldiers belonging to many divisions of different military regions and exerted constant military pressure on Vietnam's northern border region.

During their inspection tours to the Sino-Vietnamese border region and even to the Hoang Sa [Parcel] archipelag, which had been illegally taken from Vietnam, Beijing leaders still urged their troops to conduct hostile activities against Vietnam. They have regularly transported by various means weapons, ammunitions, and other war material to the border; strengthened combat trenches, bunkers, fortifications, and battle positions; repaired and upgraded old roads and built new ones leading to the border; and sent many aircraft to forward airfields.

While threatening a second lesson, the Chinese authorities have, in practice, been conducting a multifaceted war of sabotage against our country in a very diverse, perfidious, sophisticated, and no less dangerous and wicked manner. They seek by every means to weaken our will and confidence, erode our spiritual and ethical values, and sabotage us in the economic, political, cultural, ideological, and other fields wherever they can. Over the past 7 years, our Armed Forces and people have clearly realized the schemes and maneuvers employed by the enemy in this kind of warfare; and they have been taking effective countermeasures.

Since 1984, the Chinese side has taken another step in their opposition and sabotage against Vietnam by launching a border-nibbling war. With their scheme to seize hills and clusters of hills for use as springboards to conduct subsequent military activities and create advantages in all fields, the Chinese authorities have ordered their troops to fire millions of artillery and mortar rounds and rockets into our territory. On hundreds of occasions, they have mobilized infantry forces at company to regimental size to launch fierce nibbling attacks at our hills. To cover up these criminal activities, they have falsely claimed time and again that this is Chinese territory and slanderously accused Vietnam of provocations and violations.

Fighting has taken place fiercely and regularly in Vi Xuyen, Ha Tuyen Province. Since April 1984, the sound of gunfire that accompanies the enemy's provocative and land-grabbing activities there has never ceased, with the enemy constantly increasing the intensity of their shellings and using new combat tactics during their nibbling attacks on our hills; enemy shells have fallen as deep as Ha Giang Cyt, nearly 20 km away from the border; and concentrated shelling attacks have been conducted along the entire borderline. On some days and in certain waves during peak months, they launched shelling attacks of a destructive nature, which were also aimed at providing cover for infantry assaults.

Concerning infantry activities: The enemy has regularly mobilized main-force units of platoon to regimental size to conduct land-grabbing attacks with an ever-increasing frequency in recent years. Besides Vi Xuyen which is a particularly hot spot, the enemy has recently expanded their shelling and land-grabbing activities to a number of other areas in some northern border provinces such as Cao Bang, Lang Son, and Quang Ninh. They have also conducted other hostile acts against Vietnam such as intensifying armed reconnaissance activities and infiltration, staging raids to test our defense, and floating mines down rivers that flow into Vietnam to kill Vietnamese civilians living along the riverbanks.

It can be said generally that although 7 tears have elapsed since the February 1979 war of aggression against our country, the Beijing authorities' hostile policy against Vietnam has not changed one iota. While promoting a diplomatic policy of smiles toward many countries, the Chinese ruling circles have refused to negotiate with Vietnam; and, at the same time, they have sought by every means to isolate Vietnam in the international arena. Opposing and sabotaging Vietnam still remains the national policy of Beijing.

After defeating the war of aggression by 600,000 Chinese soldiers against our country's northern border provinces in February 1979, our Armed Forces and people have clearly recognized the enemy's nature as well as their schemes and maneuvers; and they have continued to heighten vigilance and stand ready to fight.

For 7 years now, we have effectively countered the enemy's multifaceted war of sabotage; and in the past almost 2 years, our Armed Forces and people, especially the Armed Forces and people of Ha Tuyen, have fought valiantly and duly punished the enemy for their border-nibbling activities.

With the determination to firmly defend every sacred inch of land of the fatherland and safeguard territorial sovereignty and border security, our Armed Forces and compatriots have formulated realistic combat plans and developed flexible and effective fighting methods to promptly counter the enemy's shelling and land-grabbing activities. Many collectives and combatants have continued to uphold revolutionary heroism and the nation's glorious traditions by fighting resourcefully and bravely and recording glorious exploits. It can be said that our combatants manning the northern forward outposts have repulsed all of the enemy's nibbling attacks, thus firmly defending the areas under their responsibility. They have destroyed and decimated many enemy units, killing thousands of intruders and destroying a large quantity of war materiel. Recalling the 17 February event, we should review and sharpen our vigilance so as to always fulfill our sacred mission of defending the fatherland.

PARTY JOURNAL ARTICLE ON BORDER WAR WITH PRC

BK171623 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 16 Feb 86

[TAP CHI CONG SAN article by Le Ngoc Hien: "Defeat the Enemy's Border-Nibbling War" -- date not given]

[Text] In the past nearly 2 years, we have actually had to cope with a protracted border-nibbling war spawned by the expansionist policy of a big country that shares a 1,463-km border with us. This is not an all-out war designed to annex our country outright. Instead of sending their troops to strike massively like, as our forefathers said, storm and fire, the enemy is resorting to slow tactics as they do not need a swift victory.

This is a no less dangerous war requiring that we develop decisive and timely plans to correctly resolve all the strategic issues that arise from such a war. We should not be deceived by the thinking that we need only fight a single battle once and for all and thus underestimate the schemes and maneuvers employed by the enemy in this kind of warfare. This way of thinking will breed impatience, subjectivism, and overconfidence, leading to losses that could otherwise be avoided.

Before achieving total victory with minimal losses, we will have to go through a new protracted and difficult struggle that is complex politically and fierce militarily. It is complex politically because the enemy, while launching attacks to seize our land, has been seeking by every means to deceive public opinion, distort the truth, and alienate us from our friends near and far. They even trick their own soldiers into fighting on the battlefield and dying for their hostile policy against our people.

This struggle is fierce militarily because the enemy has been massing a large number of troops and a lot of artillery for action against a small target area; and wherever they are stopped during their land-grabbing attacks, they build strong fortifications, set up line after line of battle positions, and break up their forces into many elements to successively launch forays against small areas not very deep into our territory. For example, the enemy seized some points in Thanh Duc and Thanh Thuy villages along a 12-km stretch of the border, with the deepest point lying some 2-3 km from the border. The enemy also maintains a strong reserve force that is deployed chiefly in their own territory; and this force has caused us difficulties in carrying out combat activities aimed at destroying the land-grabbing units.

In view of this, the realities of this complex and fierce struggle have raised many points to ponder, making it impossible for us to be content with the experience already gained during the anti-French and anti-U.S. wars of resistance, and urging us to always draw upon experience promptly and develop suitable and highly effective fighting methods in order to score ever greater victories and advance toward ending this war.

At present, we can say that the border-nibbling war that is being waged by the enemy in the northern part of our country is an unusual form of warfare that is being combined with their silent and multifaceted war of sabotage against our entire country. It is unusual because the enemy has used military forces on a large scale and under tight command to wage fierce battles and launch wave after wave of protracted combat operations aimed at achieving the political and strategic objectives of their scheme. These are not just covert and sporadic acts of sabotage directed by the enemy against our military installations; they have been carrying out in an multifaceted war of sabotage. The border-nibbling war and the multifaceted war of sabotage are being combined by the enemy to carry out their general scheme of weakening and eventually annexing our country. Furthermore, the border-nibbling war in the northern part of our country no longer consists of sporadic armed clashes or normal border disputes. It is an unjust war of aggression by the Chinese authorities -- a method selected by them at a time when their ongoing multifaceted war of sabotage does not produce sufficient pressure to force us to change our line and when they do not yet have the conditions and the opportunity to launch an all-out war of aggression and annexation.

In the new struggle against this land-grabbing war, the just cause belongs to us. Fighting for national independence and socialism, we are resolved not to submit to any enemy. More than anyone else, our people and our nation, after going through more than 3 decades of war replete with difficulties, hardship, and sacrifices, have no earnest desires other than to have peace in order to build a safe and plentiful life of their own; and they wish to enter into negotiations to resolve the outstanding problems between the two countries. However, their wish has, until now, not yet received a response.

In such a situation, how can one believe the allegation usually hurled by the Chinese propaganda agencies that Vietnam has encroached upon Chinese territory and forced the Chinese troops to counterattack in self-defense. These are really distorting and slanderous allegations aimed at deceiving and covering up the Beijing authorities' plots and aggression when they sent 600,000 soldiers across the border to attack our country in February 1979; they continue to have their troops attack and grab our country's northern border area. When giving explanations to their soldiers, the Chinese officers themselves have had to admit the truth: Land on the other side belongs to Vietnam but we have to occupy it to protect our defense lines. This is what Chinese prisoners say.

It is clear that our new struggle against the enemy's border-nibbling war is an important component of the struggle to settle the fundamental contradictions between the national independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and socialism of our people and other Indochinese peoples on the one hand, and the expansionist, hostile, and socialism-betraying policy of the Beijing authorities and their troops on the other.

This struggle will last as long as the Beijing authorities do not change their hostile policy toward our people. We must remain alert and vigilant even when the struggle appears to calm down into a temporary detente. In the past 18 months of dangerous and fierce combat in the enemy-occupied areas, our troops and people, especially the troops and people of Ha Tuyen Province, have won very important victories. We have destroyed and eradicated much of the enemy's vital strength, putting out of action about 20,000 enemy soldiers, inflicting heavy losses on many enemy battalions and regiments, and destroying many of its war facilities.

Although the Chinese officers and soldiers have been deceived and their mind crammed full of the ideology of big-nation hegemony, being faced with fierce counterattacks, heavy losses, and inclement weather in the border area, they -- especially those who have recently come from the northern military regions of Nanjing, Wuhan, and Jinap -- begin to show signs of a troubled state of mind. As a result of too many hardships and sacrifices, they no longer believe in their leaders and no longer think that they can defeat Vietnam.

We have quickly worked out suitable, flexible, and effective combat tactics, initially frustrating the enemy's combat maneuvers and tactics, breaking its battle plans for delineating areas, and forcing it to take a defensive position in a bogged down situation. We have recovered some parts of the enemy-occupied areas and have further frustrated the enemy plots to expand its land-grabbing operations not only in its targeted areas but also into other areas along the borderline, especially in the early days of 1985 when it considered giving Vietnam a second lesson. On the basis of the very important initial victories, under the clear-sighted leadership of the party Central Committee, with the close and specific guidance and command of all party committee echelons, the administration of all localities, units, and with the positive and great support of the rear nationwide, our troops and people along the country's northern border will continue to develop the integrated strength of the people's warfare on the spot to win victories.

Our Army, the core combat force, was forged in the previous wars and is now being tested in the combat realities of the enemy's land-grabbing war. It has gained new experiences, possessed a contingent of well-seasoned and bold command cadres, received adequate and timely combat logistical and technical support, and conducted detailed political and ideological tasks in every primary unit. Our people have imperturbably and steadily overcome all difficulties in production and the life while enthusiastically participating in combat along with our troops. Our troops and people are of one mind and one will. All these are factors guaranteeing our victories in fighting the enemy's land-grabbing war to protect the country's territorial integrity, ensure peace nationwide for national construction, and fulfill our international obligations.

NHAN DAN CALLS PRC'S UN MEMORANDUM 'SLANDER'

BK151255 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Feb 86

[NHAN DAN 14 February commentary: "Beijing's Hostile Policy Against the Vietnamese People Is Certainly Doomed to Failure"]

[Text] Following Chinese troops' heavy shelling attacks on Ha Tuyen Province during the Tet holidays at the start of the lunar New Year of the Tiger, on 12 February, the Chinese authorities sent a so-called memorandum to the UN Security Council, slanderously accusing Vietnam of intensifying opposition against China and of expansion in Indochina. The reason for this move is quite easy to understand. It is Beijing's reaction to the broad impact that has been caused by the communique issued at the 12th conference of foreign ministers of the three Indochinese countries and by the proposals full of good-will of Vietnam for Tet. On the one hand, it reflects Beijing's passive position; and, on the other hand, it confirms that Beijing's hostile policy toward Vietnam has not changed one iota and reveals its dangerous design.

It is no coincidence that Beijing's memorandum begins by making slanderous accusations against Vietnam in connection with the Cambodian issue. Along with its familiar allegations, Beijing acts as if it were feeling deeply concerned about the fate of the Indochinese victims and about Thailand's territorial sovereignty. It cites all this to reject the path of dialogue that will lead to a political solution to the Cambodian issue.

Nevertheless, it puts forward nothing but unilateral demands it has long sought to impose. Beijing's long-winded rhetoric conceals its arrogant disregard for the realistic situation, the aspirations of nations in the region, and the trends of our time.

Beijing's attitude shows that it is worried about the fact that the rational and reasonable proposals put forth in the Vientiane communique have been winning support from broad sections of public opinion, and it is worried about the ever-developing trend toward dialogue between the Indochinese and ASEAN countries. Beijing wants to shift the blame on Vietnam, but it only succeeds in revealing its stubborn policy of hostility as well as its impractical views on the Cambodian issue. In fact, there could hardly be any country in the world which would back up its plan to seek a military solution in Cambodia even if it would take 100 years to restore the genocidal regime it tutored itself.

Beijing's memorandum grossly distorts the truth about the situation along the Sino-Vietnamese border. (?In claiming) that Vietnam considers opposition to China a national policy and blaming Vietnam for its very own crimes, does Beijing think that public opinion has forgotten the invasion of Vietnam by 600,000 Chinese soldiers 7 years ago in 1979? Let us ask whether it is Vietnam or China that has talked about teaching others a lesson, and who has promised to leaders of the coalition of Cambodian reactionary forces that it will continue increasing pressure on Vietnam's border in support of the mercenary army remnants. The following facts are clear: Vietnam has proposed to the Chinese side a cease-fire on the occasion of Tet; and it has returned 23 Chinese nationals who were captured while illegally intruding into Vietnamese territory or were rescued while in distress at sea. The three Indochinese countries reaffirmed in the Vientiane communique their sincere desire to normalize relations with the PRC; and the LPDR and the PRK support the efforts by the SRV to resume Sino-Vietnamese negotiations. Could all this be considered as a national policy of opposition to China? [Passage indistinct]

China itself has intensified shelling attacks on many areas in Vietnam's border provinces. Even during the Tet holidays, it kept up those artillery shellings and dispatched troops to intrude into Vietnamese territory. This action has also been taken to earn favors from the U.S. imperialists and as a gift to American military brass hats coming to Beijing for talks on Sino-U.S. military cooperation.

Furthermore, Beijing has falsely claimed that Vietnam is increasing its propaganda against China. Any observer knows that we have displayed a high degree of self-restraint. China, on the contrary, has made one slander after another against Vietnam, with the most recent example being its memorandum to the United Nations. It can easily be seen that along with resorting to military maneuvers, China (?has rejected) the rational and reasonable proposals by Vietnam; in so doing, Beijing has revealed its own unchanged policy of hostility toward Vietnam.

Our people firmly reject the Chinese ruling circles' slanderous allegations against our country. We clearly point out to the world China's evasion of the proposals full of goodwill by our country as well as by the three Indochinese countries, which are (?aimed at) promoting peace and stability in the region. At the same time, we strongly (?denounce) before public opinion the dangerous calculations and truculence of Beijing as reflected in the statement of the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman as well as in its memorandum. After shamelessly cooking up the story of Vietnam preparing for a new military invasion, the Beijing ruling circles have threatened to fight back on an appropriate scale and at a suitable time. This indicates that they are nurturing (?schemes) for which the Vietnamese people as well as the world peoples must watch out.

Once again, we reaffirm our unswerving respect for the friendship between the peoples of Vietnam and China and consider its restoration and the normalization of bilateral relations as an important factor for peace and stability in Southeast Asia and Asia as a whole. However, we are determined to mete out dire punishment to all adventurous acts of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists in order to safeguard our independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

The Beijing ruling circles' stubborn policy of hostility against the Vietnamese people, which runs counter to the interests of the Chinese people themselves and to the aspirations of peoples in the region, is certainly doomed to complete failure.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Comments

OW171406 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 17 Feb 86

[From the Press Review]

[Text] On its international page, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN carries a commentary entitled "Discordant Chorus on the So-Called Memorandum of China." The commentary says:

Like other international reactionary forces, the Beijing authorities also venerate the Hitlerite gang's propaganda precept of repeating a lie over and over again to make people finally believe it is the truth. Thus, after cooking up many false stories to slander Vietnam over the past years, the Chinese Foreign Ministry recently sent to the United Nations for circulation the so-called China memorandum which severely condemns the Vietnamese authorities' frenzied invasion of Cambodia and resistance against China.

The memorandum publishes false figures in the Vietnamese troops' armed provocations in the Sino-Vietnamese border areas, the shells fired into Chinese territory, and the casualties suffered by the Chinese border population since April 1979. It then blames Vietnam for causing the current strained situation in the Sino-Vietnamese border areas.

After exposing Beijing's farce of fabricating the memorandum to slander Vietnam and achieve its sinister schemes, the commentary continues:

After fighting a protracted war for national liberation and defense, the Vietnamese people want to live in peace and friendship with all other nations and countries, especially their Chinese neighbors. Vietnam can gain nothing by provoking China. Moreover, it cannot nurture any design against China. On the contrary, Vietnam, in the past as at present, has many times revealed its goodwill and desire to restore the traditional relations of friendship between the Vietnamese and Chinese people. We treasure this friendship and consider it an important factor for building a peaceful and stable Southeast Asia.

However, we are determined to protect our Vietnamese fatherland's independence, freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity; strengthen the special solidarity among Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam; and frustrate all schemes and expansionist and aggressive acts of any enemy.

The so-called memorandum of Beijing reveals its new adventurous scheme in the Sino-Vietnamese border areas. Our people and Armed Forces are determined to sharpen their vigilance, stand combat ready, and fight stalwartly to firmly defend their border and smash the enemy's invasion of any scope and at any time.

SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE CONDEMS 'TEAM SPIRIT-86'

BK160435 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 15 Feb 86

[15 February message from the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity With Afro-Asian People to the DPRK Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity]

[Text] The Vietnamese people follow with deep concern and strongly condemn the large-scale nuclear military exercise "Team Spirit-86" now being conducted by the U.S. aggressors and the South Korean puppet army, and regard it as a new escalation of their hostile policy against the DPRK, an insolent challenge to all Korean people, and a serious threat to peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region and in the rest of the world.

With progressive mankind, we would like to express once again the Vietnamese people's firm and unwavering support for the Korean people's struggle for peaceful national reunification, especially for the DPRK Government's initiatives aimed at promoting dialogue between the North and the South and eventually advancing to a peaceful settlement the Korea issue, as well as for the necessary measures taken by the DPRK to safeguard its national independence, sovereignty, and security.

We resolutely demand that the United States unconditionally withdraw all its occupation forces from South Korea, end all hostile schemes and acts against the DPRK, and let the Korean people resolve their own affairs. On this occasion, we would like to extend to the Korea Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity our warm salutations of militant solidarity and our wishes for the constant consolidation and development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two organizations.

RADIO CITES TASS ON MARCOS ELECTION VICTORY

BK160122 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] According to TASS, on 15 February, after concluding its ballot counting, the Philippine National Assembly officially announced that incumbent President Marcos has won the 7 February presidential election. Mr Marcos received 10,800,000 votes and Mrs Corazon Aquino, opposition presidential candidate, amassed 9,290,000 votes.

TRADE COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CSSR SIGNED

OW151527 Hanoi VNA in English 1456 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 15 -- An agreement on trade cooperation for the period 1986-90, a protocol on goods exchange and payments for 1986 and other agreements on economic cooperation between Vietnam and Czechoslovakia were signed in Prague yesterday. Signatories were Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister Bohumil Urban and his Vietnamese counterpart Le Khac now on a visit to Czechoslovakia.

Under these agreements, the total value of goods exchanges between the two countries will reach 460 million roubles in the five coming years, 50 per cent higher than in the period 1980-85. Czechoslovakia will export to Vietnam engineering products, especially locomotives, equipment for tele-communications, machine tools, trucks and other products. It will import from Vietnam raw materials, food products and other commodities such as tennis shoes, goods made of natural fibre and handbags. The two countries will increase their cooperation in industry, especially in electronics and light industry.

NEW ZEALANDMCLAY RESHUFFLES PARTY RESPONSIBILITIES

HK141621 Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 11 Feb 86 p 5

[By Wellington Staff]

[Excerpt] The leader of the Opposition, Mr McLay, acted decisively yesterday to move the National Party further away from the policies of the last National Government. In a sweeping reshuffle of responsibilities, three younger MPs were promoted while three former cabinet ministers were bumped down the rankings.

Among the most spectacular changes was the dumping of the finance spokesman, the Hon Bill Birch. He not only lost his finance spokesmanship, but also fell from his third-ranked position to the 12th ranking in the caucus. The new finance spokesman is the MP for Manawatu, Mr Michael Cox, who has also been promoted from the second bench in Parliament to the sixth-ranked position in the caucus, and so now has a place on the eight-seat front bench in Parliament.

The two other major promotions were of the MP for Marlborough, Mr Doug Kidd, who is the defence and national development spokesman, and the MP for Selwyn, Ruth Richardson, who is the education spokesman. Along with the new trade and industry spokesman, Mr Ian McLean, the three MPs appear set to form the core of National's central policy-making group.

All have strongly held more-market economic views, and are staunch supporters of Mr McLay's leadership.

Apart from Mr Bolger, the only former cabinet minister to hold on to frontbench positions in the shake-up were the Hon Warren Cooper and the Hon Venn Young, who also hold on to their foreign affairs and social welfare spokesmanships.

Mr McLay appears to have decided a new look line-up of spokesmanships will improve the party's chances of putting its policies to the public more clearly. He admitted yesterday that one of the reasons Mr Cox had taken over the finance role was his ability to better sell the policies to the public.

The deputy leader of the opposition, Mr Bolger, lost his trade and industry spokesmanship in the changes, to Mr McLean. In turn, he picked up agriculture from Mr. McLean.

Among the other losers in the changes are a former Associate Minister of Finance, the Hon John Falloon, who has fallen in ranking from No. 7 to No. 10, but who holds on to the overseas trade and government spending aspect of the finance spokesmanship. A former Minister of Health, the Hon George Gair, has fallen from his fourth-ranked position to No. 11, and swapped his labour and employment spokesmanship for health. Both are loyal McLay supporters.

The MP for Rotorua, Mr Paul East, has been promoted from 14th position to ninth, while holding on to his justice spokesmanship. Mr Cooper holds on to his spokesmanship for foreign affairs, as does Mr Young for social welfare, Mr Kidd for defence, and Ruth Richardson for education. The senior opposition whip, Mr Don McKinnon, and his junior partner, Mr Robin Gray, both remain in their position, having indicated a willingness to do so. The MP for Waikato, Mr Simon Upton, has been given recognition with the allocation of an associate economic development spokesmanship, in addition to holding on to his environment and arts position.

The new third member of the finance trio is the first-term MP for Remuera, Mr Doug Graham, who has picked up the taxation and revenue side of the finance role from Mr Cox. Both have been marked out as hard-working and rising stars within the caucus. They also happen to be staunch McLay supporters.

Official Criticizes Reshuffle

HK141625 Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 11 Feb 86 p 1

[By Wellington staff]

[Excerpt] The biggest "loser" in the National Party caucus reshuffle yesterday, the Hon Bill Birch, has major reservations about the party's trying to distance itself from the policies of the Muldoon Administration. Mr Birch, who until yesterday was the party's spokesman on finance, has been demoted because of his close links with the last Government's growth strategy and its interventionist economic stance. As the Minister of Energy, Mr Birch was considered one of the architects of the "think big" policies, which embraced the major energy projects.

The leader of the Opposition, Mr McLay, yesterday demoted his former cabinet colleague from the No. 3 position on the Opposition front bench of eight to the 12th-ranking position, on the cross-benches in Parliament. He also lost his finance spokesmanship and has been given the labour and employment roles.

An obviously disappointed Mr Birch said yesterday that the new spokesmanship lineup announced by Mr McLay represented a major change in direction for the party. "For the party it is an effort by Mr McLay to bring new faces forward and to distance the present caucus from the past administration," he said. Mr Birch said that while he was happy to devote his energies to any tasks, he had doubts about trying to set aside past policies, which he believed could be successfully defended.

"I do have considerable reservations about distancing ourselves from the previous National Government completely," he said. "I believe we must be prepared to defend our past Administration, which I believe is entirely defensible."

Another former minister who was demoted in the reshuffle yesterday was the MP for North Shore, the Hon George Gair. He fell from the fourth-ranking position to 11th, and was switched from the labour spokesmanship to health. Mr Gair said he was surprised and naturally disappointed about the reallocation of responsibilities. But he said the "pecking order" was not critical to the quality or effectiveness of a political contribution. "One consolation is a return to my old responsibility in health, said Mr Gair, who is a former Minister of Health.

PAPER VIEWS 'CRISIS' IN DEFENSE MINISTRY

HK130521 Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 4 Feb 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Disarmament by Stealth"]

[Text] As the recent series of revelations about administrative, equipment and morale problems in the Ministry of Defence have shown, the chief of general staff, Major General Mace, felt compelled to go over the head of his minister, Mr O'Flynn, to the prime minister over a matter of staff training. Mr Lange reversed his own minister and supported General Mace's contention that a senior officer should proceed as planned to a defence college course in Canada. This episode plus the retiring chief of naval staff, Admiral Stewar's, comments about our defencelessness show a crisis has developed in the ministry of defence.

The public may not yet have been made fully aware of the ramifications of the breakdown of confidence between the department and its minister, but it is already clear that defence staff feel betrayed by the government's determination to regard an election slogan of "no nukes" as a substitute for a defence policy.

While the military are muzzled the government appears to be shopping around for a credible philosophy with the bizarre result that a review committee has been set up to process submissions on the subject. The problem for this committee is that a report will lack real authority -- moral or professional -- if it has to be based on the views of anti-nuclear and/or anti-American groups with little input from defence experts.

All this bears a striking resemblance to the scenario outlined by our present ambassador to the United States, Sir Wallace Rowling in a policy option for the Labour Party in 1983, which suggested New Zealanders could be educated into an anti-Anzus attitude.

Against this background of suspicion the government appointed a minister of defence who in his strategic suggestions, such as the blowing up of our bridges, appears to be acting as spokesman for some groups -- only now emerging publicly -- with eccentric thinking on defence policies. If the government had intended to adopt the neutral stance that sections of the Labour Party openly and honestly support, such a radical change in our foreign and defence policies should have been discussed with the electorate. No one can object to a policy which has been democratically endorsed. Indeed some members of the military may themselves support such a changed role.

It is the policy of disarmament by stealth that is responsible for the unprecedented series of statements coming from Defence personnel. While the Government is proclaiming a willingness to continue to carry its part of the burden of the defence of the West, our military is clearly having problems in getting agreement for first-class training or the replacement of weapons. The contradictions are only too apparent and they cannot all be blamed on financial considerations.

Mr O'Flynn has accused some officers of disloyalty and the long-term effects of a disaffected defence force must be worrying in a society that has been able to take the constitutional propriety of the military absolutely for granted. But loyalty has always been a two-way relationship. In the present state of confusion over the future of the country's defences and the lack of direction and political leadership of its forces, a number of New Zealanders who happen to be in the military may believe their government has not been loyal to them.

MALAYSIABANGKOK'S THE NATION: VOPM SEIZED IN CPM RAID

BK190134 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Feb 86 p 3

[Text] Betong, Yala -- Malaysian troops yesterday started moving towards the Thai-Malaysian border in search of another major stronghold of the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) on the tenth day of Thai-Malaysian joint operations, a senior military official said. The advance of the Malaysian troops towards the border followed a discussion between the Thai commander of the 5th Army Division, Maj Gen Kitti Rattanachaya, and the Malaysian commander of the 6th Brigade in Malaysia on Monday. Kitti said he had asked his Malaysian counterpart to move troops from their former position about one kilometre from the Thai-Malaysian border to locate the stronghold of the CPM eighth company in the jungle-clad area. The CPM eighth company's stronghold was believed to be on the Malaysian soil about 500 metres north of the recently-captured CPM base in the area, designated by the Thai military as "Target 102," he said.

The government troops, led by mortar barrage and rocket bombardment from helicopter gunships, Sunday seized the stronghold of the CPM fifth special communications platoon which also served as the CPM major radio station. He said the clandestine radio station was called "Suara Rakyat" or "Voice of the People of Malaysia," according to the CPM document found in the camp. The Malaysian special branch police have confirmed that the CPM clandestine radio station's transmission covered Malaysia and several southern provinces of Thailand.

Kitti said the government's seizure of the insurgents' mobile radio station has reduced the ability of the CPM communications and brought much advantage to the anti-CPM joint operations. He said the government soldiers were also trying to uncover another CPM clandestine radio station believed to be located in the nearby area.

According to the sources, the joint forces are expected to modify their co-ordinated plan against the CPM insurgents or launch the joint offensive from both sides of the border in the next few days. The sources said an army-trained dog, called "Mixy," was killed by booby trap in the fallen stronghold of the CPM in the 102 target area yesterday. Four war dogs were deployed to detect the booby traps in the area, they added.

Meanwhile, on another target area, codenamed "103" about 18 kilometres southeast of Betong, the government's helicopter yesterday spotted a jungle target suspected to be another base of the insurgents. They said the ground troops were advancing into the second target area to search for the CPM stronghold. So far 16 Thai troopers and two Malaysian soldiers have been wounded during the joint operation.

(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay has not been monitored since 10 February 1986.]

MAHATHIR VOWS MALAYSIA NOT TO BE MILITARY POWER

HK181602 Hong Kong AFP in English 1600 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 18 (AFP) -- Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad today said he did not want to see a mini arms race in Southeast Asia and pledged not to make Malaysia a military power. Malaysia "would be very nervous if there are military powers around it," he said at the opening of a major exhibition of defence equipment and systems by some 300 armament manufacturers. Dr. Mahathir, who is also defence minister, said his government had no plans to become a major manufacturer and supplier of arms.

Dr. Mahathir said that the exhibition should not be misconstrued as official support or endorsement for an arms build-up in Malaysia or the region. If we go into the manufacture of arms it is only to meet our needs and if the economies of scale forces us to produce more than our needs, then we will sell the excess," he said.

Dr. Mahathir, who spent two hours viewing the exhibits, said that Malaysia as a developing country had not and would not give defence and security top priority in annual budget allocations. Annual allocations for defence and security have been substantially cut over the past two years, officials said.

SINGAPORE

LEE KUAN YEW NAMES SON 'ACTING' TRADE MINISTER

HK170754 Hong Kong AFP in English 1741 GMT 17 Feb 86

[By John Thomas]

[Excerpts] Singapore, Feb 17 (AFP) -- Lee Hsien Loong, son of Premier Lee Kuan Yew, tomorrow assumes a ministerial hot seat and a chance to emerge as his father's successor. Premier Lee has bestowed the key Trade and Industry Ministry to his son, 34-year-old Brigadier General Lee Hsien Loong, who entered politics from his post as second in command of the armed forces 16 months ago.

The new responsibility falls in the midst of Singapore's worst economic situation since independence in 1965. Political analysts said that Brig Gen Lee would emerge as the man to lead Singapore into the next decade if the economy turns around during his charge of the ministry.

While the promotion projects an element of high risk by the elder Lee, who has announced plans to retire in 1989 after 24 years as premier, Brig Gen Lee has been given the best possible chance to succeed through a total revision of economic policies, the analysts said.

As junior minister of trade and industry, a post received as soon as he won the December 1984 parliamentary election, Brig Gen Lee has headed the government's special committee to revise economic policies for the next decade. He will now be in charge of implementing his own masterplan. The plan, the most comprehensive policy review ever undertaken in this city state, is intended to put Singapore on the path to economic recovery from its unprecedented 1.7 percent contraction last year. Recovery is of paramount importance, as trade in this rapidly industrialising tiny island with no natural resources accounts for three times the gross national product.

"Trade and industry, is the key job in the government and that is where Brig Gen Lee has found himself from the start of his political career," one diplomat said. "He has now been given the best chance to prove himself and given the background and support, there is little chance he will fail," the diplomat said.

Given the title acting minister for trade and industry and minister of state (junior) for defence, Brig Gen Lee does not carry the full ministerial head rank. Political observers said this made only a nominal difference as he would attend cabinet meetings in the absence of a "full" minister for the trade and industry portfolio and he would be entitled to a pay rise. They said the prefix "acting" was probably to assuage critics who felt he had been rising too fast.

OPLE WARNS U.S. AGAINST SUPPORT FOR AQUINO

HK191041 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Labor Minister Blas Ople, in a meeting with President Reagan's special envoy Philip Habib, said that the United States will jeopardize its role as the guardian of peace and security of the world if it supports Cory Aquino's civil disobedience movement. Ople said it would be wrong for the United States to license insurrection in its ally countries.

RADIO COMMENT ON PURPOSE OF HABIB'S VISIT

HK190251 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0235 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Station Commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan's special envoy Philip Habib, former assistant secretary of state for the Far East, is tasked with assessing the post-election situation and to see how, as Reagan's official representative, he could help in the effort towards national reconciliation. He is holding talks with KBL and opposition leaders, church officials and others involved in the recent election to explore with them possible ways by which such a reconciliation could be brought about. Habib's coming reflects the U.S. Government's deep concern over the post-election situation which has been variously reported by American media as verging on civil war.

President Marcos said Habib was welcome, for his assessment could afford the Reagan administration an objective look into the situation which has been muddled by the biased reporting of the foreign media and has been perpetuating and portraying conditions in the country. [as heard] President Reagan, whom the local opposition claimed during the campaign as tending to lean in favor of Cory Aquino's candidacy, took occasion anew to reiterate his neutral stand on the Philippine election, pointing out that the matter of electing their leaders is for the people of the Philippines to decide, and that it is not for us to interfere.

It is significant to note that when Reagan made the decision to send envoy Habib to the Philippines, the winners of the election had yet to be ascertained, an indication that the U.S. Government was ready to talk with any party that won the election. Habib's trip here comes in the wake of President Marcos' own initiative towards national reconciliation in which he has invited the opposition to contribute its experience and expertise in resolving certain problems of state. It is expected that before long all sectors of the national community will realize the compelling need for reconciliation to enable the country to move on and act as one, in the effort towards economic recovery and political stabilization and the attainment of ensuring peace and security.

MARCOS THREATENS TO JAIL OPPOSITION LEADERS

BK190755 Manila PNA in English 0748 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 19 (PNA) -- President Ferdinand Marcos Wednesday [19 February] ruled out any possibility of an opposition-instigated civil war in the Philippines. "I don't think they (opposition) have the capability to mount a civil war or even sustain combat," he said in a meeting with ruling party leaders.

At the same time, Mr. Marcos, reelected for a fresh six-year term in the Feb. 7 polls, threatened with jail opposition leaders calling for civil disobedience. He said he would use powers vested in him by the constitution to stop the civil disobedience movement launched last Sunday by defeated opposition presidential bet Corazon Aquino. While the government would deal with the opposition with "maximum tolerance," the president said, there would be a limit to tolerance if the public welfare and stability were adversely affected. He expressed fears that the movement might destabilize the government.

In her speech last Sunday, Aquino called on the people to boycott progovernmental newspapers, delay payment of water and electric bills and taxes, and wage a voice barrage. But the president said "I have certain powers that can dismantle the machineries of civil disobedience," including attachment of property of those who refuse to pay taxes to the government. "We are a people who value our country, perhaps more than the opposition. The opposition does not care for the people," the president added.

OFFICIALS WARN OF PROSECUTION FOR TAX BOYCOTT

HK181517 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Feb 86 p 10

[By Jun RAMIREZ]

[Excerpt] Bureau of Internal Revenue [BIR] officials warned yesterday that persons who refuse to pay taxes will be prosecuted in court. The warning was issued after opposition leaders called on the people not to pay taxes as a sign of civil disobedience to bring about the fall of the Marcos administration. The opposition leaders contended that Mr. Marcos continued presidency was without any moral basis and obtained through massive election frauds.

Vocing the sentiment of the BIR leadership, Manila revenue regional director Jesus P. Parado said the penalty for tax evasion and other violation of the tax code has been increased recently by a presidential decree. Parado said "willful" failure to file a tax return, to pay taxes, supply information, or keep any records is punishable by a fine of not less than P5,00, or imprisonment of up to five years. Such acts he said were earlier punishable by a fine of not less than P2,000 or imprisonment of not more than six months.

Quezon City revenue regional director Jose Salindong said Presidential Decree 1994 prescribes fine of up to P10,000 or imprisonment for not more than two years, aside from other penalties imposed by law against any person who attempts to evade payment of taxes. If the offender is a corporation, Salindong said, all responsible officers will be held liable and shall be fined up to P100,000.

Parado and Salindong also reminded taxpayers whose income derived solely from salaries, interests, pensions or any combination of these sources, that they have until March 18 to file their 1985 income tax returns without penalty. For those with income from business or practice of a profession, and those residing abroad, the deadline is April 15.

MARCOS PLANS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT COMMISSION

HK181201 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1000 GMT 18 Feb 86

[Text] President Marcos says he plans to create a special commission to undertake a study of proposed amendments to the Constitution. He made this [words indistinct] during a meeting at Malacanang with a group of American observers led by Alan Weinstein, president of the Center for Democracy.

The president said the commission will be composed of representatives from the 2 major political parties, the IBP [Integrated Bar of the Philippines], the academe and other lawyers' associations. Bert Asuge reports:

[Begin recording] It has been suggested, President Marcos said, that vice president-elect Arturo Tolentino, a constitutional expert, be the head of the commission. The president had previously disclosed that, upon his re-election, he would ask for a review of certain provisions of the constitution, including Amendment No 6 which gives him decree-making powers. The amendment was among the changes in the constitution ratified in a plebiscite on October 16, 1976.

The U.S. delegation arrived Saturday night to pick up from where the official U.S. poll observer team, headed by Republican Senator Richard Lugar, left off. Lugar and his group monitored the conduct of the February 7th election. Weinstein met a group of election experts last December which observed the preparation for the holding of the election.

President Marcos also informed the American visitors of the study being done on who should be named to the proposed council of state which will be the highest advisory body to the presidency. He also furnished the group with pieces of evidence showing that it was not necessarily the ruling KBL that committed violence and fraud during the election. Pictures of opposition members and Namfrel [National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections] volunteers in the act of committing various election law offenses proved this contention, the president said. He add that many of the violent acts connected with the election arose from local political feuds and not necessarily with the knowledge of both political parties. For this reason, the president said he was calling a party caucus tonight to ask KBL leaders and other local officials to go to their constituencies and help ease tension. [end recording]

TEXT OF MARCOS LETTER TO CATHOLIC BISHOPS

BK160530 Manila PNA in English 0518 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 16 (PNA) -- Following is the text of the letter of President Ferdinand Marcos to Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, head of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philipines:

His Eminence Ricardo Cardinal Vidal
Catholoc Bishops Conference of the Philippines
Manila
Your Eminence:

I have taken careful note of the statement released Friday by the Catholic Bishops Conference, and I hasten to make known to you and to the other members of the conference the position of the government on the various points which you have raised.

By this declaration Your Eminence judged the February 7 elections as "unparalleled in the fraudulence of their conduct." In this single sweeping statement, a most crucial political exercise in our country for which many have sacrificed so much time and effort was summarily indicted. We find it most disturbing that for so solemn an indictment, the conference did not provide any form of substantiation which can serve as guide for the public and the government to judge and act.

Surely it is not suggested by Your Eminence and your colleagues that because it is your community speaking, our people need not inquire at all into the substance of your assertions. Let us remember that we are not talking here of ecclesiastical issues but of political matters.

And neither the government nor our people can possibly allow so serious a declaration to pass without subjecting it to the time-honored tests for truth and fairness. None of us can close our eyes to the dangerous implications of the course that you have proposed in line with your perception of the elections.

We would therefore request Your Eminence to provide the government and our people a bill of particular on the charges you have raised; similarly we are requesting both the opposition and the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan to provide the government a specific listing of their complaints concerning irregularities in the recent elections.

Such specification of charges, which by the way is expected and normal in civil and political matters, should enable us to achieve three things:

First, this will serve to provide the nation a means to judge the veracity of the many charges [of] irregularity in the elections.

Second, if cases of fraud are proven and listed, regardless by whom committed, our people can then measure the extent of irregular conduct and judge whether your apparent dismissal of the elections as "unprecedented in fraudulence" is sound and correct.

Third, such specification and substantiation of charges will enable the government to prosecute those who may have committed illegal and immoral acts during the balloting and during the subsequent tabulation of election returns.

It will be a grave disservice to the nation if the Catholic Bishops Conference should adopt the view that it does not have to substantiate its charges. Surely Your Eminence are aware of the terrible toll on the tranquility and civility of our society that bitterness and hatred in the aftermath of the elections have taken. When demagoguery and partisanship rule wholly our political life, the whole nation is in trouble, not just the government but all of us.

I appeal to the Catholic Bishops Conference, through your Eminence, to undertake this effort for the sake of truth, fairness and, above all, the national interest. And let us say also that such a step may serve to heal the probable divisions and disenchantment that this partisan stand of the conference may already have engendered among the members of the church.

I also take this opportunity to state in the clearest possible terms the basic policy of the government in regard to its relations with the Roman Catholic Church in our country. Our policy is to cooperate with it, and with other churches in the land, on questions of morality and religion. And we acknowledge the role that all the churches play in the strengthening and development of our society.

If therefore the government is forced to take action against any member of the church for certain illegal acts, that does not mean that government is fighting the church itself. It is important to bear this in mind because of the great phenomenon during the recent elections of members of the clergy and the religious traversing the bounds of the law because of their partisanship. The government, to put it plainly, is duty bound to file cases in court against all those who commit such violations, and they include KBL and opposition partisans, both laymen and ministers of the church.

Finally, in regard to the call for "non-violent struggle" of the Catholic Bishops Conference, may I say that I find it truly regrettable, but it will not change the government's policy of maximum tolerance. This policy will govern the conduct of our law enforcement forces and agencies.

Moreover, you will not find a more ardent advocate of dialogue and conciliation than the president and the government during this time of difficulty. It had seemed to us for a while that Your Eminence because of his post-election statement 1st February 10, staunchly stood for dialogue and sobriety rather than confrontation. Many were gladdened to hear a voice of moderation within the church at a moment when passion and partisanship appeared to rule so many of our pastors of the faith.

However that position may have changed now, nonetheless we would like to believe that Your Eminence has not turned his back on searching a responsible discussion of issues in keeping with what the nation so greatly needs today. With best wishes to you and to the Catholic Bishops Conference, I am

Very truly yours,
[Signed] Ferdinand E. Marcos
President of the Philippines

CARDINAL VIDAL URGES NON-VIOLENCE IN OPPOSITION

HK180203 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 17 Feb 86 pp 1, 6

[By Leo Enriquez]

[Text] Cebu City -- Cebu Archbishop Ricardo J. Vidal said Saturday the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines [CBCP], of which he is the chairman, does not support civil disobedience. "Civil disobedience should be the last resort, after exhausting all other peaceful means," the Cardinal said.

The Cardinal also denied charges that the clergy was indulging in politics when the bishops issued a statement calling the Feb. 7 elections "fraudulent." He said it was their prelates' duties as pastors "to give moral judgment on human acts," adding that politics is a human act.

Vidal when asked about fears that the strongly worded CBCP statement could strain church and state relations or even lead to violence. "There is always risk in any human endeavors. We have to take the risk when we search for the truth," he said. The Cebu archbishop said he is aware that some quarters were hurt by their joint statement.

The two-page CBCP statement, not a pastoral letter as earlier reported, called on the Filipinos to form their own judgment on the last political exercise and take action within the bounds of Christian conduct, he said.

President Marcos assailed the church stand as advocating violence and showing a pro-opposition bias. But Vidal said the statement calls for use of non-violence. "They are speaking as politicians while we speak as pastors," the Cardinal said.

On the prospect of a three-way dialogue between President Marcos, the opposition and the church, he answered that any initiative should not come from the church because of the principle of separation of church and state.

KBL OFFICIALS CRITICIZE BISHOPS' STATEMENT

HK170346 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 15 Feb 86 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] Some 60 Catholic bishops said yesterday that they do not advocate "violent nor bloody means" to correct what it called "wounds inflicted on the democrat system" when the country went to the polls last Feb. 7. The bishops were led by Jaime Cardinal Sin and Ricardo Cardinal Vidal.

In a statement by the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, the bishops said that if the "government does not freely correct these crimes against the body politic, then it is up to the people to speak for themselves." This has been taken by opposition leaders as an endorsement of a planned mass action which may include civil disobedience.

The bishops, who held a two-day closed-door conference on the elections, also said that there was "systematic disenfranchisement of thousands" of voters, "widespread vote-buying," and "tampering of results."

Reacting to the bishops' statement, Labor Minister Blas Ople denounced the conference for issuing a statement calling the people to carry out an "active resistance" against the government by way of "non-violent struggle for justice," saying this is presumably a code word for civil disobedience. At the same time, MP Manuel Garcia (KBL-Davao), concurrent deputy minister of justice, deplored the action of the bishops, saying this would "divide the people and the nation."

The bishops did not assign direct blame to either side nor say which of the candidates, in their view, won the election. They said, however, that despite massive disenfranchisement of voters, votebuying, tampering with returns and violence, they were "morally certain that the people's real will for change has been manifested."

When asked if the bishops were not advocating a course of action which would lead to inevitable bloodshed, despite their stress on non-violence and peaceful means, Bishop Teodoro Bacani, the spokesman, replied "We don't want violence, it will have to be very well planned." He said the bishops had thought and prayed long and hard over two days as to whether they might be irresponsibly exposing the people to violence, and had concluded with their own opinion. "The people must make up their own minds," he said, "it is the responsibility of everybody, including the bishops. We stand fully in solidarity with the people. As in the election itself, it depends fully on the people."

Asked if bishops, priests and nuns would lead or participate in acts of civil disobedience, or nonviolent protest, he said it would be up to individual dioceses.

Scores of local journalists packed into a seminar room for the press conference announcing the Church stand applauded when the statement was read. A handful of pro-government pickets carrying placards saying "sin go - Sin no more" in a reference to Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, an outspoken government critic, melted away before the statement had been read."

Garcia said that the KBL is fully prepared to present incontrovertible proof of the illegal acts committed by some members of the clergy and the religious during the elections. Garcia cited this even as he noted that the bishops did not state how they arrived at their assessment of the elections. "Nothing is said about the fact that such a serious charge, at this most solemn hour for our country, must be substantiated." The KBL, Garcia said, is ready to present evidence of how the National Movement for free Elections (Namfrel), with which, he said, the clergy and religious are associated, violated various provisions of the election code and maliciously provided a "selective" tabulation of the votes to show a spurious trend for the opposition candidates.

For his part, Ople said the bishops group has apparently drowned its own voices of classical moderation to give way to partisan passions in a moment of temporal weakness. "The bishops have broken with all precedence," he said, "they have defied the well-established rule against the church's participating in political affairs."

Their action, Ople said, "made a travesty of the constitutional principle of separation of church and state." Ople stressed, however, that it is not too late for the bishops to ponder on the consequences of their "rash decision," which he said "clearly poses an imminent threat of the peace and tranquility of our country."

At the same time, Garcia cautioned the people against being swayed by the call of the Catholic church leaders for "non-violent struggle." Such a call to action, Garcia asserted, places the bishops' group "in the same position as any other contending political group in our society."

As the bishops have entered in an argument on the correctness of the results of the recent elections, he said, it now "also opens itself to full inquiry into how the clergy and the religious conducted themselves during the elections."

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES ACTIVITIES OF CARDINAL SIN

HK150446 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 14 Feb 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Truly Not the Work of a Man of God"]

[Text] It is sad -- and God forbid that it will become tragic -- that the archbishop of Manila, Jaime Cardinal Sin, is furnishing the energy for the so-called "Cory power", which impels her to continue proclaiming her victory while he persists in celebrating masses of thanksgiving instead of waiting for the final results of the official canvass of the Batasang Pambansa. While he should be promoting calm and sobriety among the people, he is inciting further dissent and partisanship instead, as if he had not already done enough damage to exacerbate political strife by using the pulpit during the political campaign to promote Mrs. Aquino's candidacy and derigate President Marcos in the process. As if this were not enough, immediately after the elections he continued using the same pulpit, through his pastoral letters to give paeans of praise to the National Citizens Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) as though this citizen's arm of the Commission on Elections had honestly discharged its duties as a nonpartisan group to help promote, enhance and realize a free, honest and peaceful election.

The hypocrisy and ideological dichotomy that are the hallmarks of Cardinal Sin's pastoral letters read at the church pulpits have turned off many Catholic congregations, compelling them to recall the Padre Damasos of Rizal's time and to wonder if the friars are not back among us. With the election over, a man of the church, especially somebody of such high standing as he, is expected to help heal the wounds that had been inflicted on the nation as a result of partisan politics and to unify the political adversaries and partisans so that they would work together in peace accommodation and understanding.

Thus, the latest announcement of Cardinal Sin and his hierarchy of bishops to hold a mass on Feb. 18 at the Manila Cathedral in Intramuros (which, incidentally, used to be the place where the friars once held sway during the Spanish occupation) in appreciation of Namfrel's work and to express the church's support of "civil disobedience," is ill-advised.

Civil disobedience, even if purportedly designed to be nonviolent, can easily degenerate into bloody confrontation because of the built-in aggression in every act of disobedience, despite the fact that the average Filipino, immediately after the election, has settled back to a normal life.

It would be most timely for Cardinal Sin and his flock to listen to the adjuration of John Paul II during the pope's recent visit to India for the church to keep out of politics. In the same regard, our Filipino nuns shuld take a bit of lesson from Mother Teresa's dedication to humanity and the alleviation of suffering by desisting from indulging in politics as they did in the last presidential election and forego liberation theology which had recently proved fatal in many Catholic countries in Latin America.

MARCOS RECONCILIATION STATEMENT TO OPPOSITION

HK141511 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 14 Feb 86 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] President Marcos said last night that he is offering his hand "in reconciliation and brotherhood," in a move designed to defuse the air of confrontation between the contending parties. In a message to the nation, the President said that "there are more important things than the redemption of personal hurts and grievances today, and that is the overriding interest and welfare of the nation."

While offering reconciliation to the opposition, the President also called on all members of the ruling KBL and their supporters to join him in the effort to bind the wounds that the Feb elections had produced.

The President's statement follows in full: "During this most difficult time when we are all awaiting the conclusion of the official canvass of election returns and the subsequent proclamation of the winners in the elections, I want to renew assurances of this administrations' commitment to honor without reservation our people's verdict at the polls and to extend our hand in conciliation to those who have contested the elections with us.

"Too much that is regrettable have already happened since the voting came to a close. Even greater tension has risen the country and more divisions have come among us at this time, as compared to the period of the campaign. Already, the tense situation has engendered sporadic instances of violence in our midst, including the brutal slaying of a former governor of Antique and opposition leader, Mr Evelio Javier.

"We cannot express more strongly how deeply we deplore these violent incidents that have taken place. We are especially grieved because we believe that with a greater exercise of sobriety and reasons, with a little more care in the words and actions of partisans, so many or all of these incidents would never have happenend at all.

"We can't do much now about what has already taken place, except mourn those who have been the victims of violence; but we -- all of us -- can definitely do something about preventing similar incidents from occurring. We can all help in defusing the air of confrontation that hovers around us and triggers so many of these incidents.

"Again, I say tonight that as your President I extend my hand in conciliation and brotherhood to my opponents in the recent elections. Moreover, I ask all the members of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan, all our supporters and sympathizers, to join me in this effort to bind the bounds and hurts that this electoral contest has produced. All of you will perhaps remember that during all this time, I above all have been the subject of vilification and attack. Yet, tonight, I say I forgive all those who have hurt or attacked me and I have no feeling of vindictiveness in my heart. For these are more important things than the redemption of personal hurts and grievances today, and that is the overriding interest and welfare of the nation.

"Often, in a situation such as we are in now, it is important that one side unilaterally take the first steps to make conciliation possible, so that other hearts embittered by anger and hate may be softened. Tonight, I appeal to all my colleagues, supporters and sympathizers to join me in taking these first steps to reconciliation and brotherhood. I ask you not to respond in any manner to any provocations, or to retaliate for any hurts you may have experienced.

"We hope that to this earnest of reconciliation on our part, the opposition and the whole nation will respond in the same spirit of goodwill and brotherhood. We pray that they will heed the paramount call of the nation today for peace and harmony."

MARCOS ORDERS RELEASE OF SAMAR CHDF MEN

HK171204 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] President Marcos today lifted the Presidential Commitment Order [PCO] against two members of the Civilian Home Defense Force [CHDF] in Eastern Samar and ordered their permanent release. Bert Asuge reports:

[Begin recording] Ordered permanently released were CHDF members Federico Borje and Hilario Montes on recommendation of the chief of the constabulary and the regional commander of the PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] Region 8 Command. Borje and Montes were arrested on the basis of a PCO issued on October 25, 1982, for having been identified as members of the NPA group which ambushed elements of the 593d PC Company on September 28, 1982, at Balancayan, Eastern Samar, together with three other CHDF men. Borje and Montes were detained continuously at the Eastern Samar PC-INP Rehabilitation Center in Borongan, Eastern Samar, where investigations disclosed that the two were actually CHDF members and that the PCO against them was issued because of their alleged alliance with the NPA. It was further disclosed that their arrest on October 1, 1982 at the battalion checkpoint was done to redress an imagined [words indistinct]. [end recording]

RADIO VERITAS INTERVIEWS CORY AQUINO 17 FEB

HK180146 MANILA Radio Veritas in English 1220 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Hello, this is Radio Veritas inviting you to join us at this time in a program featuring Cory [words indistinct]. We now turn you over to our friend June [not further identified].

[June -- interviewer] We are honored to have you with us, [words indistinct] we thank you for taking time out and spending some time on Radio Veritas.

[Aquino] Well, I thank you June, because I did want very much to be able to reach our people through your station.

[June] Mrs Aquino, before we start answering some questions that a lot of people have phoned in, and some of us also have questions for you, is there a message that you have for our people this evening?

[Aquino] Yes, June, first of all I would like to say that all announcements about future plans regarding nonviolence will only come from the Veritas station, and this is to avoid disinformation by the government. And also, if I may be allowed to read a telegram from Reverend Jesse Jackson, I think it would be of interest to our people. It's from the Reverend Jesse Jackson, chairman of the Rainbow Coalition. [passage indistinct]

In support of the legitimate interests of the Filipino people, we in the Rainbow Coalition are asking the U.S. Congress to halt all U.S. aid to the Marcos regime. We consider that [words indistinct] should support development and human rights, and not plundering and repression. I know how painful it must be for you to see your [word indistinct] being killed and persecuted, but the blood of the innocent is [words indistinct].

You sons and daughters of liberation [words indistinct]. Their spirits will rise up [words indistinct] and will continue to prevail in generations to come.

Please present my solidarity to the relatives of Mr Evelio Javier and Mr [words indistinct] assassinated because of their stand for democracy, and my admiration to the Namfrel workers for their resolute [words indistinct] fair election.

My prayers are with you and the Filipinio people. May god bless you.

Sincerely, Reverend Jesse Jackson, Chairman of the Rainbow Coalition.

And June I would also like to inform our listeners that Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's envoy, called on me and on Doy Laurel this afternoon.

[June] How long did you meet with Mr Habib?

[Aquino] I think it was about an hour, and the purpose of the visit was to gather facts about the post-election crisis in the Philippines. I repeated and stressed my position that the crisis could only be resolved by a swift and orderly transfer to the Aquino presidency, which the Filipino people had chosen overwhelmingly at the poll. And both Doy Laurel and I impressed upon Mr Habib our determination to apply increasing pressure until the popular will expressed last February 7 is vindicated and respected at the earliest possible time.

[June] Have you said anything to Mr Habib [words indistinct]?

[Aquino] Nothing definite, it's just that, I was supposed to let him know if there was anything urgent that I would like to tell him, and he for his part also said that if there were something that he had to tell me that he would let me, see me definitely.

[June] You said that his purpose was to gather facts [words indistinct]?

[Aquino] About the post-election crisis.

[June] Was your party ready with documentation of incidents that had happened?

[Aquino] Well, actually I think they already have, you know, the facts about that, they did have observers here. What he is more concerned about is the post-election crisis that we are presently having in our country now.

[June] Is there any other message that you would like to say?

[Aquino] Well, yes, I would like to again thank all of those who attended the rally yesterday afternoon, I'm very grateful that in spite of the huge numbers that we had, everything proceeded peacefully, and this once again goes to show that millions of Filipinos are for this nonviolent, peaceful protest movement that I announced yesterday. [passage indistinct]

AQUINO URGES MARCOS TO RESIGN, NO COALITION

HK171444 Hong Kong AFP in English 1425 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb 17 (AFP) -- Corazon Aquino today reiterated that she would never join a coalition with President Ferdinand Marcos as she called on Filipinos to support her civil disobedience campaign and force him to step down. The opposition leader, who has accused Mr. Marcos of stealing her victory in the February 7 election through fraud and violence, also said in the first of planned nightly radio chats that she was willing to die for her cause. "I do not want to be part of any coalition government and all I am asking is for Marcos to resign," she said on a live show on the Roman Catholic church station Radio Veritas which exceeded its half-hour limit.

She was speaking hours after meeting with Philip Habib, a special envoy sent by U.S. President Ronald Reagan to assess the post-election crisis in this country that hosts two strategic U.S. military bases.

Mr. Reagan, in a turnaround from previous statements seen here as favoring Mr. Marcos, said Saturday that the Philippines' ruling party was responsible for most of the fraud and violence that marred the election. But Mr. Reagan also urged Mr. Marcos and Mrs. Aquino to "work together" for reforms, and said Washington would help "in any way we can."

Mrs. Aquino, who announced yesterday a non-violent protest campaign including a boycott of firms and banks linked with the administration, said on radio that "we cannot wait for another country .. to give us our freedom." She cautioned listeners to follow closely her personal announcements on Radio Veritas to avoid "disinformation."

Meanwhile, defeated opposition vice presidential candidate Salvador Laurel today called on unnamed "relatively respectable" cabinet ministers and other officials to abandon President Ferdinand Marcos. He said not all of them took part in election frauds and coercion. Mr. Laurel lost out in the vice-presidential poll to Mr Marcos' running mate Arturo Tolentino. "After February 7, the Marcos regime cannot govern effectively, and all his ministers and officials will suffer from the stigma of public opprobrium, even if some of them may not have participated in the massive defrauding of the people's will," he said in a statement. "The only honorable option for these government officials is to resign and forever cut their ties with Mr. Marcos and the KBL (ruling party)," he added.

JOURNALISTS GROUP LEADER ON AQUINO'S BOYCOTT CALL

BK170659 Manila PNA in English 0645 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 17 (PNA) -- A group of Filipino journalists Monday described as "unfortunate and ill-advised" the opposition's call for a boycott of our national newspapers. Macario Vicencio, Association of Filipino Journalists president, said any move to force out of circulation any newspaper is "tantamount to suppression of press freedom."

The boycott call was spelled out Sunday by defeated opposition presidential challenger Corazon Aquino in a rally at the Central Park here. Aquino, beaten by President Ferdinand Marcos by 1.5 million votes in the official tally of the Parliament, said the boycott of the newspapers was part of her program of "general strikes to force Marcos to step down from power.

The newspapers she labelled as "crony papers" were the BULLETIN TODAY, DAILY EXPRESS, TIMES JOURNAL and the PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

"By advocating a boycott of these newspapers, Mrs. Aquino undermines the moral basis of her own crusade for truth, justice and reforms," Vicencio said. He said "Aquino should not make herself too open to suspicion that she is intolerant to criticism and has become so self-righteous as to consider herself beyond reproach." "Perhaps, Mrs. Aquino should be reminded of what a great political thinker once said that freedom is essentially not just freedom for the thought that we have, but also freedom for the thought that we hate," Vicencio said.

STUDENTS PICKET U.S. EMBASSY IN MANILA

OW150819 Tokyo KYODO in English 0811 GMT 15 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 15 KYODO -- Five hundred members of the Leftist League of Filipino Students (LFS) staged a picket of the United States embassy in Manila Saturday to protest U.S. attempts to reconcile the Philippine opposition with President Ferdinand Marcos following the bitterly contested presidential election. "We are protesting U.S. intervention in Philippine affairs and its attempts to salvage the U.S.-backed Marcos dictatorship," Dong Herrera, LFS national vice president, told KYODO news service. He said the Americans are trying to influence opposition presidential candidate Corazon Aquino to collaborate with Marcos. The LFS had boycotted the election, saying it was an American ploy to prolong Marcos' 20-year rule.

Aquino, widow of assassinated opposition leader Benigno Aquino, had claimed victory a day after the February 7 elections. She has indicated she will refuse to cooperate with Marcos and questioned the motives of Americans who support him.

Expressing concern about future relations with the Philippines, host to two of the biggest overseas American military bases, President Ronald Reagan has sent his special envoy Philip Habib to Manila to assess the polls, which were characterized by violence and charges of massive fraud. The U.S. embassy has refused to give the exact time of arrival of Habib, who is due Saturday. He is expected to meet with representatives of the Marcos administration, the opposition and the volunteer election watchdog, National Citizens Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel.) Habib is also expected to meet with Roman Catholic Church leaders. Fifty-five bishops belonging to the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines Friday issued a statement that will also be read in all churches Sunday supporting nonviolent protests against what they called "unparalleled fraudulence" in the election.

The official count being conducted by the National Assembly showed Marcos leading with 10,184,710 votes against Aquino's 8,731,999 as of Friday night. The unofficial Namfrel count, however, puts Aquino ahead with 52.38 percent of the votes from 66.24 percent of all elections precincts. An estimated 21 million of the 26 million registered voters cast their ballots.

PROTESTERS DUMP GARBAGE IN FRONT OF U.S. EMBASSY

HK160806 Hong Kong AFP in English 0803 GMT 16 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb 16 (AFP) -- A group of protesters today dumped a two-foot (0.6 metre) high pile of garbage outside the U.S. Embassy here, saying it represented the state of U.S.-Philippine relations.

The protesters tipped the rubbish out of jute sacks outside the embassy gates as marchers filed past on their way to a rally for opposition presidential candidate Corazon Aquino.

The National Assembly officially proclaimed President Ferdinand Marcos re-elected yesterday, but Mrs. Aquino claims she is the rightful winner and the election was fraudulent.

About a dozen supporters of the Bayan alliance, which boycotted the elections picketed the embassy, with more arriving, as helmeted U.S. Marines were stationed on each floor of the building. The protesters handed out leaflets headed "Philippine-American Relationship: A Lot of Garbage." It said U.S. President Ronald Reagan, a former film actor, thought that "the beatings, maulings and killings" during the election were "scenes from a movie and the 'dead'" numbering more than 80 opposition supporters "would jump back to life" afterwards. It accused Mr. Reagan of being willing to ignore democracy, human rights and the sanctity of the ballot in the pursuit of "one single objective -- to retain the U.S. bases at all costs."

Washington maintains two strategically-important military bases in the Philippines.

PUBLIC, PRIVATE COLLEGE CLASSES REOPEN

HK170738 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0700 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] The resumption of classes in the collegiate level in both public and private schools today means the situation in Metro Manila and throughout the country is fully back to normal. The Education Ministry had extended the suspension of classes in the collegiate level for 1 more week after a 2-week break on the request of concerned parents and teachers due to post-election tension. Classes in the elementary and high school levels, however, had been resumed earlier. Education Minister Jaime Laya said the deferment of classes, particularly in the collegiate level, was necessary until the situation stabilized. Certain sectors had expressed apprehension over the tension and animosities resulting from the heated election campaign.

CPP LEADER ON REPORTS OF U.S. MILITARY ADVISERS

BK170339 Manila PNA in English 0254 GMT 17 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 17 (PNA) -- The Philippines will be a "graveyard" of American troops if they decide to fight communist guerrillas here, according to a ranking rebel leader. The warning was issued by Antonio Zumel, one of the top three leaders of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), in a recent interview with three newsmen and published by the DAILY INQUIRER.

"You see American servicemen walking on the streets in Angeles and Olongapo... They would provide very, very easy targets for our armed city partisans," he said.

The northern Philippine cities of Angeles and Olongapo are sites of the U.S. naval and air force bases, the biggest outside the American continent.

Zumel was reacting to foreign reports that the U.S. Government was sending some 300 military advisers here to help the Philippine Government train its counter-insurgency forces. The advisers would come from the elite Green Berets of the U.S. Army.

Zumel, whose elder brother is the superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), said "Direct aggression" by U.S. forces against the Filipino guerrillas had become a "distinct possibility. The communist leader is a former news editor of the defunct PHILIPPINES HERALD and two-time president of the National Press Club of the Philippines. He joined the underground movement shortly after martial law declared in 1972.

Zumel said it has not been the policy of the New People's Army (NPA), the CPP'S armed wing, to attack American troops who number about 20,000 in the Philippines. "But if any American troops come into the country for the expressed mission of waging aggression upon our people either by themselves or in collaboration with the Marcos regime, there is no doubt about it. They will be considered as combatants and they will be dealt with as such," he said. He added: "For many well-meaning American boys, unfortunately our country will be a graveyard for them as well."

He denied that the CPP has been receiving military aid from Libya or the Soviet Union. In fact, he said, the CPP had come under "vicious criticisms" from Moscow recently.

COLUMNIST SUGGESTS U.S. UPHOLD FILIPINO RIGHTS

HK180219 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 17 Feb 86 p 4

["Here and Now" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "Isolating Marcos"]

[Text] The noose had tightened. U.S. President Reagan has reversed himself on the Philippine elections, and finally acknowledged evidence of massive electoral fraud "committed by the ruling KBL." Reagan's statement hit the wires hours after his trouble-shooter, Ambassador Philip Habib, had arrived in Manila, and the Batasan had proclaimed President Marcos and his running mate Arturo Tolentino the winners in the Feb 7 presidential and vice-presidential elections.

The world press, U.S. politicians and academics, as well as diplomatic observers are nearly unanimous in calling the elections fraudulent. The Christian Democrats International has called on Marcos to step down. But the most damaging statement, which appears to have had a major impact on Reagan, was the post-election statement of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines [CBCP] condemning the conduct of the elections and calling for active non-violent protest.

The CBCP, bulwark of political conservatism, was unanimous in making the condemnation, and had problems only with respect to the wording of the statement. The final document was moderate in language, but firm in its condemnation, and had no difficulty gaining the support of the Vatican, which expressed full confidence in the competence of the bishops to pronounce moral judgement on the elections in their capacity as pastors.

Not only was this the strongest statement ever issued by the bishops against the regime; it was also the first time the bishops put into serious question the moral basis of the Marcos government. While the church normally says, "Give unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, the CBCP says "a government that assumes or retains power through fraudulent means has no moral basis": that "such an access to power is tantamount to forcible seizure and cannot command the allegiance of the citizenry": that such government, is merely "in possession of power," and has the obligation "to right the wrong it is founded on": and that "if it does not of itself freely correct the evil it has inflicted on the people, then it is our serious moral obligation as a people to make it do so."

What the bishops are saying is that it is not a moral offense, not a sin, to withhold allegiance from this government, and to actively resist it, provided the means are non-violent and in conformity with the Gospel. The issue is no longer between Mrs. Corazon Aquino and Marcos, but between truth and falsehood, justice and injustice. "We must obey God rather than men." And the call is addressed to all, including those in the Armed Forces and in the Marcos government.

This means that if the people decide to wage civil disobedience, they have the bishops' prior approval. Of course, the document avoids any and all mention of the word, but this is only because the bishops did not want to give the impression that they are the ones recommending this form of non-violent struggle. There is no doubt the bishops have taken an activist stand.

"We ... ask every loyal member of the Church, every community of the faithful, to form their judgment about the Feb. 7 polls. And if in faith they see things as we the bishops do, we must come together and discern what appropriate actions to take that will be according to the mind of Christ. In a creative, imaginative way, under the guidance of Christ's spirit, let us pray together, reason together, decide together, act together, always to the end that the truth prevail, that the will of the people be fully respected."

The message is clear. The bishops are not simply pushing the layment. They have decided to be in the frontline. If Marcos understands this, then he knows he cannot govern. If he doesn't, then I do not have the words to describe the impending disaster. He will have a government to which, and to whose laws, no Catholic Christian may consider himself bound. It will be an unjust government, a tyranny, pure and simple.

Stalin once asked: How many divisions has the Pope? It was a rhetorical question. Marcos can, and may be tempted to, ask the same question of the bishops: he has the armed divisions. But if he no longer has the moral authority to exercise political power, then those divisions will be no match against the moral right of the people. As in the Iranian revolution, the soldiers' guns could turn against those in power.

This is not mere political rhetoric. It is a scientific description of the situation, as universally perceived the world over. And it could be precisely this view of the situation here that must have prompted Reagan to finally reverse himself on the elections. Marcos is isolated and unless the United States uses its vast powers to help uphold the rights of the Filipino people, it could end up hated and unwanted and sharing Marcos's isolation and awaited downfall.

COLUMNIST ON U.S. POSITION, OPTIONS AFTER VOTE

HK141609 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 14 Feb 86 pp 4, 11

["Here and Now" column by Francisco S. Tatad: "Deus ex Machina"]

[Text] Statements emanating from Washington have saddened and embittered many in the opposition. They feel that the Reagan administration has let them down with its undue willingness to embrace the Marcos government. To Mrs. Cory Aquino, this is a stab in the back, a betrayal of the elections.

The Reagan statement suggesting it will be business as usual with the Philippine Government, even if Marcos wins, has triggered all sorts of speculation. Some of these are unprintable. Mrs. Aquino sees a U.S.-Marcos "conspiracy to cheat the Filipino people of their liberation."

Reagan is sending his top trouble-shooter, Ambassador Philip Habib, to try to defuse the growing tension. But the situation is unlike anything Habib has dealt with before. Both Marcos and Aquino claim to have each won the Feb. 7 elections. Marcos, who is trailing Aquino in the unofficial Namfrel count, is confident of winning in the official Batasan canvass, and insists on strict adherence to the constitutional procedure. Aquino on the other hand is sure she will lose in the official count, which she believes it rigged, and wants to take her case "to the people." She has been advised by some to form a provisional government, or in any case to have the "people" proclaim her as "their President." She plans to lead daily demonstrations. It is an explosive situation.

U.S. statements seem to express so much elation over the genuine enthusiasm of the Filipino people in participating in the elections, and the fact that they have produced a strong two-party system. For the opposition, this is an insufficient reading of the elections. What the elections have shown, from the opposition's point of view, is not only an attachment to the two-party system, but above all a real desire for change. The Reagan administration's inability or slowness to realize this -- and to see that the people have, in fact, voted for change -- has shattered many illusions, and may have long-term effects on Philippine-American relations.

Given the dark and ugly mood of the opposition, Habib will be walking into an ocean of troubles. Can he possibly persuade Cory that the reports of all her fieldmen and the Namfrel count are all wrong, and that she has, in fact, lost the elections? Can he ask her to settle for a seat in the "council of state" which Marcos says he will organize in order to allow the opposition a role in government? As far as Cory is concerned, the next government is one in which she will be the President with Marcos completely out of power and facing charges in court for his "crimes."

If she starts leading demonstrations now, these could acquire a life of their own, and Habib may find it difficult discussing any compromise formula with her. With the religious and clergy as well as the Left taking part in such demonstrations, these could spread within the country in a few days. They could go out of control, and make any compromise or accommodation with Marcos or Washington almost impossible.

Of course, there is something else Habib can do, and that is to try to persuade Marcos to throw in the towel. But this is even more unthinkable. Marcos will say he has no intention of staying on if he loses in the official count, but why should he give up his office if he wins? And he is going to win, with either Arturo Tolentino or Salvador Laurel winning with him.

This puts the Reagan administration in a corner. If it sides with Marcos, while the opposition and the rest of the world are convinced that Aquino won the elections, then it will have to face the charge, already expressed by Mrs. Aquino, that it has conspired with Marcos to rob the Filipino people. This is going to prove costly to U.S. interests in the long run. Filipino nationalism will become more intensely anti-American, and armed insurgency, which boasts of a purely indigenous communist leadership, may ultimately be internationalized, i.e. become more open to Soviet, Vietnamese, Korean and Chinese Communist Party support.

If on the other hand the U.S. sides with Aquino after Marcos has been officially proclaimed by the Batasan, it will have to drop the seven veils that have so far given its political activities here a tolerable cover, and commit open and naked intervention. It will have to abandon the position taken by Reagan, that the Feb. 7 election was the business of the Filipino people, and denounce it as a farce that endangers the stability of the country, Asia and the Pacific, and American interests here and in the region.

This denunciation will not be enough to unseat Marcos, who will probably dig in. The U.S. will have to go beyond a simple policy of denunciation, and into political and economic sanctions. Marcos will, of course, fight back tooth nail. But even if the regime eventually crumbles and Marcos departs the scene, if this happens after Marcos has formally assumed his next term, it will not be Mrs. Aquino but Marcos's vice-president, who will inherit power.

Short of a revolution installing Mrs. Aquino in power, one of the following has to happen in order to make her President: 1) Marcos departs the scene before he is officially proclaimed the winner; 2) Mrs. Aquino is officially proclaimed the winner in the Batasan count; or, 3) The U.S. lands its Marines, reoccupies the Philippines, and installs her as President.

There is nothing to suggest that Reagan is about ready to arrange any of these options. Nor will Filipinos, except for those who have been praying for a U.S. *deus ex machina*, accept naked military intervention.

BUSINESS DAY COLUMN CALLS FOR CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

HK180243 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 17 Feb 86 pp 4, 6

[*"My Cup of Tea"* column by Ninez Cacho-Olivares: "The Filipino Solution"]

[Text] Giving the American solution to a Filipino problem one last shot, millions of Filipinos tramped to the polls last Feb. 7 and discovered that the American solution did not work for them. In spite of the blood spilled before, during and after the elections, in spite of the tight watch over the ballot by an army of citizen volunteers, the will of the people, construed in this religious country as the voice of God, has been, as it has been for years, frustrated. Today, Ferdinand Marcos, in whom Ronald Reagan is so pleased, but in whom the majority of Filipinos are so displeased and disillusioned with, claims to have secured the mandate of the Filipino nation.

Ferdinand was proclaimed the President-elect by his rubber stamp Batasan at 11:30 pm Saturday night. A victory party in Malacanang couldn't wait. And even a newspaper early Sunday morning already carried an ad saying that Ferdinand has been proclaimed and that the people have spoken through the ballot.

Did the people speak through the ballot? How can the people know for sure when the vote count in the provinces of Lanao, Sulu, Tawitawi, Isabela, Ilocos Norte, Quirino, Leyte, Cagayan and so many other places exceeded the number of registered voters? When the number of precincts in the Ilocos Norte tally sheet exceeded those officially registered in the Comelec? When there was so much fraud, terrorism and violence?

Ferdinand has not earned a fresh mandate from the Filipino people. He stole the elections before the very eyes of the nation and of the world. Therefore he has neither the legal nor the moral authority to lead the nation. Going on the principle that the voice of the people is the voice of God, it is widely believed that no authority of the state exists without God's permission. As the KBL and states, "Everyone must obey state authorities, because no authority exists without God's permission, and the existing authorities have been put there by God. Whoever opposes the existing authority opposes what God has ordered, and anyone who does so will bring judgment on himself."

So far, to many Filipinos, there is no contradiction in this. But what must be clarified first is whether the authority, in this case Ferdinand Marcos, can claim that he has been placed there by God.

God may work in mysterious ways, but it is highly unlikely that God speaks through hundreds of ghost precincts and ghost voters. Besides which, God does not, as I recall it, come up with mathematical impossibilities. And God does not have to resort to lies, fraud and cheating to make his voice heard. Neither does he have to steal an election to make his voice heard. Having "won" in an election marked by unparalleled widespread fraud and violence, are the Filipino people duty-bound to recognize Ferdinand's authority? I say no. The Catholic Church, through the Catholic Bishops' Conference, holds the same view. "According to moral principles," says the Church, "a government that assumes or retains power through fraudulent means has no moral basis. For such an access to power is tantamount to a forcible seizure and cannot command the allegiance of the citizenry."

Short of armed struggle, and short of the great masses of people joining the Left in a tactical alliance, Filipinos realize that they have very few peaceful options left. They know now that all avenues which could have served to give them relief have been effectively closed by Ferdinand and his men. Their will has been intentionally frustrated. They have absolutely no faith in the presidential electoral tribunal now composed mainly of men known for their loyalty to Ferdinand instead of the Filipino people. They no longer trust the Batasan, which has shamelessly steamrollered the proclamation of Ferdinand, presumably on orders of Ferdinand. They no longer have any faith in the courts of justice. So what other avenue is left open to Filipinos to make their will prevail?

Civil disobedience seems to be the only solution for now. If we, as a people, must continue to fight for our freedom peacefully even after the democratic process failed, then we must engage in nonviolent civil disobedience. We must not recognize Ferdinand's authority. We must not give his regime legitimacy by obeying his authority. He has not, after all, been placed in a position of authority by God and the Filipino people. He has been placed in that position by his men. Let his men obey his authority. Let his men pay the taxes. Let Ronald Reagan and Americans of his ilk recognize Ferdinand's government. Let them support and prop Ferdinand. Let the American taxpayers' money flow in; let the American military arms and equipment be sent to oppress the Filipinos further, to kill more innocent citizens, to perpetuate an unjust system, to choke and crush the nation into submission or into oblivion. It should be easy enough for Reagan and his ilk to do this. After all, the Filipinos don't matter to Reagan. Only American interests do.

The struggle to liberate ourselves must continue. And for it to be successful, it is essential that we withdraw our support for Ferdinand and his regime. We do not have to obey state authority. We can oppose existing authority because that authority has been secured through fraudulent means. And we are comforted by the thought that in applying Filipino solution to a Filipino problem, the Catholic Church is with and for the people. We shall overcome.

TIMES JOURNAL: RECONCILIATION FIRST PRIORITY

HK180251 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 17 Feb 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Reconciliation Is First Priority"]

[Text] A report the other day said President Marcos met with top economic and financial advisers last Saturday and decided on measures to hasten the country's economic recovery. Mr Marcos is also scheduled to meet with defense and military officials to map out stronger counter-insurgency measures. The economy and the campaign against the dissidents suffered a lot because of the preoccupation of the national leadership with the election. They could suffer a lot more if nothing is done to prevent the post-election situation from deteriorating further.

Already, there is talk of an impending paralyzation of business as a result of the unresolved issues that emerged during the election, including fraud and violence, that have served to fuel anti-government sentiments. There are also fears that the widespread anger and confusion spawned by these election irregularities may give the insurgents -- the communists, particularly -- a greater chance to intensify their campaign to topple the government. There is every reason to believe that the communists may yet succeed if nothing is done at this stage to heal the spiritual and physical wounds inflicted on the people by election irregularities; despair is known to drive people to unreason and this may just be the people's mental state the enemies of democracy are waiting to seize upon.

So more than the economic and anti-insurgency programs, the government should pursue its bid to unify the people whose polarization is, sadly, partly its fault, what with the divisive rhetoric of those in the high perches of power during the campaign period. It is not enough, many think, that Mr. Marcos went on nationwide radio and television to offer his hand in reconciliation with his political opponents. That offer must be coupled with more concrete efforts to prove the government's sincerity toward this end.

For one, the government could start with an honest-to-goodness investigation of the irregularities that marred the election. For another, they could show a little more sincerity in going after those who were responsible for the violence that occurred before, during and immediately after the election. It pained many to learn that despite the assurances of Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, deputy chief of staff, that the murder of former Antique Gov. Evelio Javier would be attended to immediately, there is an apparent incipient move to whitewash the case. This is not to say, however, that the economic and counter-insurgency programs of government must be set aside at this stage. It's just that priorities must be properly set.

U.S. 'ABOUT-FACE' ON POLL FRAUD CRITICIZED

HK181505 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Feb 86 p 8

[Column by Benedicto David: "Too Late?"]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan's about-face on the elections here just might be a little too late. His first statement was to the effect that there was fraud on both sides along with violence and that there was "no evidence" that there were instances of such incidents on the part of the ruling party. Now, he maintains that there was fraud... and he apparently lays the blame on the ruling party.

His most significant statement, apart from all that, is that it is the bases that are virtually his only concern...and this does not sit well with the Filipino people. There is room to believe that perhaps he has begun to realize that his precious bases would be in greater danger if he were to close his eyes to the facts and rely simply on blind trust.

The point is that quite a number of moderates have already been radicalized. People who were friendly to the United States have now turned against Washington and are beginning to act on the premise that Mr. Reagan (and hence the American government) could not care less about such incidents as the Evelio Javier murder, the rape, torture, mutilation and beheading of three college girls in Quirino province by enemies of the Unido-Laban group, and indeed about the people of this country... provided his precious bases were guarded by the government.

The Filipino, being an emotional being, takes things rather personally... and acts accordingly. We hope that the situation can still be rescued...but the difficulty of doing so becomes more and more difficult as the days pass. Only a decisive step can save the situation.

It was bad enough when Mr. Reagan's vice president made that famous toast at Malacanang. It is far worse when Mr. Reagan says his primary concern is the welfare of the bases and implies that the Philippines can go to hell provided his bases are kept safe.

If Mr. Reagan continues to waffle on the question, he may find himself in the situation of the man who tried to ride two horses at the same time...and who found himself on his butt. It would seem that Mr. Reagan's attitude was not really reflective of the sentiments of the American people...considering the fact that at least a dozen legislators (including Senator Lugar) have denounced the frauds here. Trying to get that across in an emotionally-charged atmosphere is difficult. We wonder if Mr. Habib is going to be equal to the task.

We know for a fact that the Aquino-Laurel group has given up on any sort of moral support from Washington and has decided to go its own way...displaying the same attitude toward Washington as was shown to it by Mr. Reagan. Is it a case of too little, too late? We truly wonder. And only subsequent events will provide the answer.

MARCOS CAMPAIGN CHIEF CHARGED WITH MURDER

BK190837 Manila PNA in English 0822 GMT 19 Feb 86

[Text] Manila, Feb. 19 (PNA) -- The government has filed criminal charges against a ranking political leader of President Ferdinand Marcos for alleged murder. Charged with multiple murder and frustrated murder was Arturo Pacificador, an elected member of Parliament and campaign leader of the ruling New Society Movement Party in the central Philippine Province of Antique.

Pacificador, also the Parliament's assistant majority floor leader, has been implicated in the ambush-slaying of nine persons in Antique in last year's National Assembly elections. Aside from the lawmaker, others charged with him were four constables and two policemen, all bodyguards.

In its complaint, the Justice Ministry tagged Pacificador and his bodyguards for the death of nine persons, all followers of an opposition leader in the province. Probers said the ambush-slaying occurred while the opposition leaders were about to pass through a bridge where Pacificador's group was waiting. Only one survived and he served as a prosecution witness.

Pacificador has also been implicated for the broad daylight gunslaying on Feb. 11 of former Antique Governor Evilio Javier in the provincial capital town. The incident is still under investigation.

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